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ON THE COVER: Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98 addresses the crowd during Charter Day ceremony after being invested as the College’s 24th chancellor.

COVER PHOTO BY STEPHEN SALPUKAS AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY
SMALL PLEASURES
I enjoy reading my hard copy of the magazine at home. After a long day with two young sons (ages 2 years and 7 months), it is my little treat to sit on the couch for a few minutes and read an article or two. I especially like the “Back Story” feature.

ALLISON POLLOK WITHEROW ’98
Laurel, Md.

WORKING OUT WITH THE MAGAZINE
I always love getting the W&M Alumni Magazine. You asked in this latest issue how and where we read the magazine. Well, usually I read the printed copy. I actually usually read it while on the treadmill at the gym at work. It’s nice because it lays flat against the treadmill. My only suggestion: make the print bigger. I like reading it on the treadmill but the magazine uses awfully small print, which can sometimes make it hard to read. But the content is great.

My husband and I got married on the patio of the Alumni House — we’re hoping to get down there soon to see our newly installed brick. :)

MEGHAN EWELL POWERS ’05
Arlington, Va.

W&M CAMPUS SHOTS
Want to have your photo of campus published in the William & Mary Alumni Magazine?

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Something Old, Something New

I am writing this letter having just returned from Charter Day Weekend. We celebrated our 319th birthday with wonderful energy and spirit. Our new chancellor, Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98, the first alumnus chancellor in the “modern age,” was invested and gave a stirring speech that spoke of our beloved College and our nation today. I encourage you to make plans to attend our 320th birthday party. Charter Day is a moving ceremony that reinforces what a distinctive school we have.

There are two other hallmarks of the weekend. The first is the Alumni Medallion Ceremony where the William & Mary Alumni Association recognizes alumni who have contributed significantly to their communities and to the College. Their dedication to William & Mary illustrates in living color what we mean when we speak of a lifelong relationship. For Ruth W. Tillar ’45, it means 70-plus years of active relationship with the College, underlined by having never missed a homecoming since her graduation! With this “rose” in the center, she had a fellow honoree on one side in Henry C. Wolf ’64, J.D. ’66, whose service to the College and community was underlined by an eight-year term on the Board of Visitors including serving as rector for two years. And on the other side was Joseph S. Agee ’52, M.D. ’56, Joe, the coach, inspired and challenged men and women to do their very best for over 32 years! It does not get any better than this. We are so lucky to have people like this as part of our William & Mary family.

The second hallmark of Charter Day Weekend was the ever-growing intercommunication between the various boards of directors. For the previous two years, Rector Jeff Trammell has set aside a full afternoon for a joint meeting of the Board of Visitors (BOV), the Foundation Board of Trustees, and Alumni Association Board of Directors. These meetings where President Taylor Reveley, committee chairs, and the College’s alumni, development and communications staffs discuss the College’s strategic plan. The resulting energy, understanding and appreciation serves to underscore the critically important role we each play given reduced Virginia state support and the need for all College entities to pull together in the same direction.

Lastly, I want to comment on the great team that Karen R. Cottrell ’66, M.Ed. ’69, Ed.D. ’84, executive vice president of the Alumni Association, has put together to serve our more than 88,000 alumni. You will see this expressed in an improved website that is easier to navigate thanks to our director of communications, Mitch Vander Vorst, and his team. And Mitch tells me we have just begun. We are also focused on how we can better engage alumni with a new department led by Director of Alumni Engagement Brooke Harrison. We are determined to fulfill our mission: To provide services and avenues for alumni and friends to develop loyalty to, understanding of, and lifelong relationships in the present and future of the College. Your feedback and ideas are always welcome as we strive to involve and communicate with each of you.

GO TRIBE!

PETER M. NANCE ’66
President
William & Mary Alumni Association
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A portion of the proceeds of Sir Christopher Wren White and Lord Botetourt Red benefits the Alumni Association of the College of William & Mary.
Charter Day 2012 was an especially momentous occasion. During the ceremony, Robert Michael Gates was invested as William & Mary's 24th Chancellor. Like British universities, William & Mary spares its Chancellor the burdens of governance and the molestations of management. Our Chancellor focuses instead on symbolizing the continuity and splendor of William & Mary, on providing wise counsel to the campus community while gracing our most important ceremonies, and on pressing the flesh from time to time with students, faculty and alumni.

Before the American Revolution sundered William & Mary's ties with the mother country, the College's chancellors were Archbishops of Canterbury or Bishops of London, plus an occasional earl or two. William & Mary then had very close ties to the Anglican Church. After the Revolution, our first American Chancellor was none other than the great George Washington, who assumed the post in 1788 and held it until his death in 1799, including while he was President of the United States.

During recent times, starting in 1986, we have had a brilliant run of Chancellors — former Chief Justice of the United States Warren Burger, former Prime Minister of Great Britain Margaret Thatcher, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, then the incomparable Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, the first woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court, and now our own alumnus, Bob Gates, Class of 1965, who is the only person to serve as U.S. Secretary of Defense under presidents from different political parties and whose career in public service is the stuff of legend. That Secretary Gates was asked to continue heading the Defense Department despite a dramatic shift in political control of the White House was powerful testimony to his integrity, judgment and capacity to lead. All in all, Bob Gates has worked for eight U.S. presidents. When he retired from federal service in June 2011, President Obama awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country's highest civilian honor.

William & Mary's chancellorship is one of many treasures from the College's storied history. The people who hold the office provide convincing evidence that William & Mary is a special place and those associated with it are making a difference for the better. To revisit my favorite quote from Thomas Jefferson's biographer, Dumas Malone, “Our continent has provided no greater seedbed of greatness than the one square mile of this old colonial capital, and no American institution of learning has ever surpassed the record of this little College, in Jefferson’s generation, as a nursery of statesmen.” When Jefferson completed his studies at William & Mary in 1762, two and a half centuries ago, the College was already 69 years old. Fast forward 250 years to today, and William & Mary, in its 319th year, has become one of the most time-tested and acclaimed institutions of higher education in America and one of the most prolific producers of graduates devoted to the good of their communities, states and nation. Bob Gates, Class of 1965, stands splendidly in this tradition.

William & Mary's deep roots in American history and seminal role in the creation of the United States, coupled with its striking contemporary accomplishments, make a dynamite combination. When you mate being one of the very first colleges in North America, and having been present at the creation of our country, with the dynamism of vibrant success in our time, you get an institution of enormous power and promise.

In the closing section of his Charter Day remarks, Chancellor Gates reminded us of the College's special role: “In the great and urgent endeavors that lie before us, I have no doubt that the graduates and scholars of William & Mary — this community of learning, listening and working through issues rooted in the original soil and the basic principles of American liberty, have a special role, and a special obligation, to be part of the solution: as leaders, as public servants, as citizens.”

We embrace that role, for all time coming.

W. Taylor Reveley III
President, College of William & Mary

Visit wm.edu/charterday/videos/to view videos of the Charter Day celebration.
The portrait of the ‘Iron Lady’ returns

~ BY AMEYA JAMMI ’12

Meryl Streep took home an Oscar on Feb. 26 for her role as Margaret, the Lady Thatcher in the recent movie *The Iron Lady*. But before the former British Prime Minister was portrayed on the big screen, she was captured on canvas while serving as the first post-colonial English Chancellor of William & Mary.

Now, that portrait of the “Iron Lady” has returned to the College’s Sir Christopher Wren Building after traveling to Russia.

The oil on canvas painting by esteemed American portrait painter Nelson Shanks was displayed at the State Russian Museum in St. Petersburg from last June to July, as well as at the Russian Academy of the Arts from July to October. The exhibition, which featured a number of works by Shanks, was organized by the Foundation for International Arts and Education. This organization, Melissa Parris, registrar at the Muscarelle Museum of Art explained, “helps to protect and preserve the historical and cultural legacy of the countries of the former Soviet Union” through arts and exhibition programs.

“I think this is a pretty historic and important exhibition,” Parris said. “I don’t think there’s often a solo artist show that’s in such prominent Russian museums, so in that way it’s important for the artist and for showing American art in another country. But also, for us, the College is represented all the way in Russia. I think that it’s really particularly important that, in this portrait, she’s wearing the William & Mary chancellor’s robe.”

While other objects from the museum collection have been loaned overseas before, it is the first time there has been a loan to Russia.

The portrait of Thatcher was commissioned by the College of William & Mary in 1998 and purchased with the support of alumnus J. Bruce Bredin ’36. At the time, Thatcher, who served as the College’s chancellor from 1993-2000, was a familiar face on campus.

“She went to Richmond on our behalf,” recalled Louise Kale, director of the Historic Campus. “She lent herself to fundraising appeals. She was a real presence at William & Mary, especially when you compare her to the Colonial chancellors or to George Washington, who agreed to accept the office of chancellor only after being reassured that he would not have to travel to Williamsburg. The College — everybody at the College — related to her in a personal way.” Kale was present when the artist,
Shanks, initially visited William & Mary to discuss the portrait.

“He came to the Wren Building to choose the wall in the Blue Room where the portrait would hang,” Kale said. “So, the portrait was actually painted specifically for the Blue Room and specifically for the wall where the portrait is displayed today.”

After seeing where the portrait would be displayed, Shanks purchased an antique carved wood and gilded frame especially for the portrait.

“The artist was so invested in how this portrait was going to look in the setting for which it was painted,” Kale said.

The chancellor’s regalia featured in the portrait was designed in 1993, the College’s 300th anniversary, and first worn by Thatcher. The robe is made of green silk damask and decorated by gold oak leaf lace and gold ornaments.

The completed portrait was unveiled on Charter Day in 2000. The dedication ceremony was held in the Blue Room on the last day of classes in April 2001. During the ceremony, Thatcher was made an honorary member of the class of 2001.

The newly dedicated portrait, like its subject, “came and went,” in Kale’s words. In 2002, the portrait was taken to Palm Beach, Fla., for an exhibition of Shanks’ works. In 2004 and 2006, it traveled to Philadelphia, again, as part of exhibitions displaying his paintings.

“Nelson Shanks really likes to be represented by that portrait because it is spectacular,” Kale said.

Parris, too, noted the beauty of the portrait, which is the latter of two portraits of Thatcher painted by Shanks.

“It’s got such a jewel-like quality that you don’t really see in the digital images or the published image of it,” Parris said.

Preparing for the Journey

The following year, the Muscarelle Museum of Art was approached by the Foundation for International Arts and Education. As the museum’s registrar, Parris handled the “nuts and bolts” to prepare for the portrait’s journey. In the following months, Parris reviewed all their facility reports and the organization’s fine arts insurance policy. Issues that had to be addressed included environmental conditions and climate control, among other things.

“We really have to make sure that its placement isn’t going to affect it either aesthetically because it’s in some weird niche, but also so that the climate control can be maintained and it’s not getting excess heat and dryness from any heat source,” Parris said.

The next step was to actually prepare the portrait for the journey, which involved creating a microclimate frame and a crate.

Finally, on June 2, 2011, the portrait of Margaret, the Lady Thatcher, was exhibited at the State Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, the first state museum in Russia. The exhibition, named “Nelson Shanks in Russia,” featured 50 pieces by Shanks, including portraits of American presidents Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan.

Shanks himself traveled to Russia for these exhibitions, teaching a master class at the Russian Academy of the Arts in Moscow. He was also featured in Russian media, being interviewed with the portrait of Thatcher in her green and gold robes over her shoulder.

W&M gains accolades for new “viewbook”

Thousands of high school students on the hunt for a college received an unexpected surprise in their mailboxes over the summer from William & Mary: A box.

William & Mary’s new Ampersandbox offers an alternative to the College’s main recruitment tool, its viewbook, in the form of 15 unique postcards. Together, the packaging, made from recyclable cardboard, and the eco-friendly postcards measure less than seven inches tall and five inches wide.

On the front, a graceful pairing of words floating in the background espouses a gigantic green ampersand. Each postcard uses a photo and two-word colloquialism to explore and highlight the College’s many distinctive strengths.

The first postcard on the stack, for example, is a photo of William & Mary’s mascot, the Griffin. The word pair “Naked & Friendly” is boldly centered in all caps. Flip the card over and a snippet of text talks about the uniqueness of the student body and encourages prospective students to “come as you are.” It takes no longer than two minutes to read.

The creative Ampersandbox is already getting national media attention. Recently, the Chronicle of Higher Education wrote a story on how colleges across the nation are re-thinking the role of viewbooks, and included William & Mary’s Ampersandbox as one example.

The campaign also has a web counter-part, to provide online interaction.

Through the multimedia Ampersandbox, prospective students can view the postcards online and explore websites depicting life at William & Mary. W&M’s Office of Undergraduate Admission and Creative Services partnered to create both the print and web Ampersandbox.

Wendy Livingston, senior assistant dean of admission, said the College tested the Ampersandbox prototype on current students. Students liked the fact that it was different, said Livingston, and that they hadn’t seen anything of this “digestible size” in their mailboxes.

William & Mary alumni were also asked to contribute to the Ampersandbox project, said Livingston. In October 2011, the Admission Office asked alumni to share a word pair that defined their experiences at the College. Four new postcards were featured in the Winter 2011 issue of the Alumni Magazine, which included submissions from a recent graduate and from class members who graduated in the 1970s and ’80s. There’s even one from the Class of 1957.

— Megan Shearin, W&M News
The Princeton Review lists William & Mary sixth for best value among public universities and colleges. The ranking was released Feb. 7. William & Mary was listed seventh a year ago in The Princeton Review ranking, which is based on factors such as academic excellence, cost and financial aid.

The numbers remain preliminary, but admission officials are confident this year’s undergraduate applicant pool will be larger than 13,600 — the seventh consecutive year of record-setting application numbers. That represents a 6-percent increase over last year’s pool of 12,825. Over the past 10 years, the number of undergraduate applications to the College has increased by more than 40 percent.

Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine listed William & Mary fourth among its list of top 100 American public colleges and universities that combine “outstanding education and economic value.” It is the third consecutive year William & Mary is listed as fourth in the country. The complete listing appears in Kiplinger’s February 2012 issue.

According to the latest rankings released by the Peace Corps, the College is eighth among medium schools, with 37 William & Mary alumni serving as volunteers for the organization. William & Mary, which has had 576 alumni serve in the Peace Corps since its inception, has been ranked among the Peace Corps’ top 10 mid-sized schools for the last 10 years. W&M is the smallest school among the top 10 mid-sized schools and has the third-highest per capita volunteer ratio.

MeNetwork app delivers merchant deals to W&M community

William & Mary faculty, students and staff can now be notified of special offers from local Williamsburg merchants by using their smartphone devices. Users download the free MeNetwork app and then select the businesses or college departments they’re interested in hearing from by “subscribing” to them within the app. Whenever a new special offer, event or announcement is posted, everyone who is subscribed to that merchant or college group will be notified on their mobile phone or tablet. The free app is available for iPhone, iPad or Android devices. The MeNetwork is currently available in more than 70 U.S. cities across the nation, with plans to expand into Europe this spring.

Professors collaborate at Carnegie Hall

English professor Nancy Schoenberger and Sophia Serghi, the Robert F. and Sarah M. Boyd Distinguished Associate Professor of Music, took their collaborative act to New York on Jan. 30 for a concert at Carnegie Hall. Entitled “The Fool and the [NEWSTHEMED] [NEWS BRIEFS]

Schoenberger and Serghi

World: Nine Meditations on the Major Arcana,” it featured original music by Serghi and poetic interpretations by Schoenberger inspired by nine of the 22 Major Arcana tarot cards. Last year, the Flux String Quartet performed Serghi’s exploration of Byzantine and avant garde music. Schoenberger is renowned as the coauthor most recently of Furious Love: Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and the Marriage of the Century.

W&M lauded once again as “military-friendly”

William & Mary has once again been listed among the country’s most military-friendly schools. Military Advanced Education (MAE), a magazine for service members and veterans interested in using the Department of Defense’s education benefits, included the College in its fifth Annual Guide to America’s Top Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities. This is the second time that the College has been included on the list. Schools were selected for inclusion on the list based on numerous factors, including on-campus assistance and support provided to military families.

Graduate students featured at statewide STEM research forum

The College of William & Mary made a strong showing at the Seventh Annual Graduate Student Research Forum on Feb. 16 in Charlottesville, Va., where five students presented posters on their innovative research in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. The graduate students’ posters focused on cutting-edge research in: software maintenance and evolution, particle physics, dietary mercury exposure, sea-level rise and land-use conversion, and emotional competence.
During the official Charter Day ceremony on Feb. 3, President Taylor Reveley reflected on Thomas Jefferson’s connections to the College, noting that William & Mary was already 69 years old when Jefferson left it in 1762.

“Fast forward 250 years to today, and William & Mary, on its 319th birthday, has become one of the most time-tested and acclaimed institutions of higher education in America and one of the most prolific producers of graduates devoted to the good of their communities, states and nation,” said Reveley.

Before leading the crowd in a cheer of “319” at the end of the annual ceremony, Reveley asserted that the College’s deep roots in history and its contemporary accomplishments “make a dynamite combination.”

“This is to say, when you mate being one of the very first colleges in North America, and having been present at the creation of our country, with the dynamism of vibrant success in our time, you get an institution of enormous power and promise,” he said. “William & Mary really is quite something. It’s iconic.”

Reveley and Rector Jeff Trammell ’73 had the honor of installing Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98 as the College’s 24th Chancellor (see page 42) in front of thousands in Kaplan Arena.

In addition to Gates’ investiture as chancellor, several students and faculty members received honors at the event. Professor Emeritus of Government James A. Bill, the College’s first director of the Reves Center for International Studies, received an honorary degree of doctor of humane letters at the ceremony.

The annual Jefferson Awards were also presented. Associate English Professor and Director of Linguistics Ann Reed received the Thomas Jefferson Award, which is presented to a faculty member each year for significant service through his or her personal activities, influence and leadership. Class of 2014 Professor of Law Laura Heymann received the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award. Physics and math major Ari Cukierman ’12 received this year’s Thomas Jefferson Prize in Natural Philosophy. Molly Bulman ’12, this year’s Monroe Prize for Civic Engagement winner, was also honored at the ceremony.

Additionally, this year’s Alumni Medallion recipients were recognized at the event: Joseph Agee ’52, M.Ed. ’56; Ruth Tillar ’45; and Henry Wolf ’64, J.D. ’66. The three received their medallions at a separate ceremony on Saturday morning (see p. 21).

Several other students and faculty members participated in this year’s ceremony, reading portions of the College’s charter or performing in the William & Mary Choir, William & Mary Brass Quintet or in the a capella group DoubleTake.

Students who attended the event received a pin to wear on their graduation gowns, and — for the first time this year — were invited to write their names on scrolls that will be kept in the College’s archives.

One student received a special privilege this year as she started a new tradition at the event: reading an essay reflecting on the College’s charter. Meghan Moore ’13 won that honor, and used the opportunity to ponder what the world would be like if William & Mary had never existed.

“Today, we can ask that what if question. However, it’s a scary scenario to spend too much time thinking about,” she said. “For without those signatures, we would miss a variety of aspects that have shaped our identities that go beyond our time here. So when asked what the charter means to me and how I will leave my mark, I have the charter to thank for a girl that will soon leave this place very different than how she came, one who emerges from a beautiful landscape speckled with pathways of winding bricks, who has a love for learning and more importantly truly experiencing life, and finally, someone who appreciates the past in order to cherish the present. In alternate historic language, without the charter, all of this would cease to exist. Imagine that.”

— Erin Zagursky, W&M News
APO celebrates 50 years of friendship, leadership, service

Like so many before them, the members of William & Mary’s chapter of Alpha Phi Omega are spending hundreds of hours of their time this semester tutoring, repairing houses and working with animals. But, somewhere amid all of that service, they are also celebrating.

The Nu Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Omega, a national co-ed service fraternity, is celebrating its 50th anniversary of its founding this academic year.

The chapter, which is one of the largest student organizations on campus, has approximately 280 members, making it one of the largest chapters in the country.

With 17,000 members at 366 college campuses throughout the country, Alpha Phi Omega is the largest Greek letter fraternity in the country. It boasts numerous notable alumni, including William & Mary’s new chancellor, former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates ’65 L.H.D. ’98. (see page 42.)

William & Mary’s chapter of the organization is involved in multiple service projects, said Andy Monick ’13, Nu Rho president. The group’s members tutor at Matthew Whaley Elementary School, collect tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities, volunteer with Dream Catchers, spend time at the Boys and Girls Club of Williamsburg, work on Housing Partnerships projects, and socialize animals at Heritage Humane Society.

The chapter’s main service project, however, is Campus Escort, which provides safe transportation to students on campus nightly between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m.

During the fall 2011 semester, approximately 160 members of the chapter performed more than 4,000 hours of service, said Monick.

History

Planning for the Nu Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Omega started in spring of 1961 under the leadership of Jim Savedge ’63, David Greenfield ’63 and Sam Sadler ’64, M.Ed. ’71 who all worked hard to encourage their classmates to join. The chapter was chartered in December 1961.

Alpha Phi Omega, which began as an all-male organization, was an outgrowth of the Boy Scout movement, and all of its original members had once been involved in scouting, said Sadler, who served as the chapter’s chartering president.

The chapter’s first service projects ran a wide gamut, said Sadler. The members worked on trails and repaired facilities at a scout camp in James City County and served as ushers during large campus events.

The original members of the Nu Rho chapter went on after college to various careers, but all continued to serve — whether through education, law, business or local service opportunities, said Sadler.

As for him, Sadler ended up serving the College of William & Mary for more than four decades, lastly as its vice president for student affairs. Sadler said that his experience with APO helped to focus his attention on service.

“By challenging us to look at the needs in our community and on the campus, it opened our eyes and encouraged us to become involved,” he said. “From its beginning, APO was an organization of students who wanted to make a difference and who were willing to work hard together to accomplish that.”

The chapter also provided students opportunities for leadership, said Sadler.

Anniversary Celebration

The Nu Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Omega celebrated its 50th anniversary quietly in the fall semester during its general meeting.

“It was pretty low-key (pizza and cake), but it was fun spending time with each other nonetheless,” said Monick.

Sadler said he is proud of what APO has become in the time since its founding.

“None of us who were the charter members of Nu Rho Chapter could ever have imagined it would become what it is after five decades,” he said, adding that APO even went idle for a while but later “reestablished itself into an incredibly impressive organization.”

Looking forward, Monick hopes that the chapter continues its work for another 50 years and more.

“Ultimately, we hope that in another 50 years, APO will be as positive a force in students’ lives as it is for all of us now,” he said.

Though Swem Library’s Special Collections Research Center has some Alpha Phi Omega material, it is looking for more to be added to its collection. Former or current members who would like to possibly contribute items should contact University Archivist Amy Schindler at 757.221.3094 or aschli@wm.edu.

— Erin Zagursky, W&M News
**When Were You Here?**

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www.wmalumni.com/garden
Mr. Maternity
Ex-Tribe Quarterback Daron Pope ’00 Can’t Be Rattled

Daron Pope ’00 is not your typical reality star. He’s not your typical quarterback, Wall Street trader or company CEO. And though his life revolves around his wife Rosie and two sons, J.R. and Wells, he’s not even your typical family man.

On a windy Saturday morning in Manhattan, Daron grabs coffee on Madison Avenue. He wishes, however, that he were at home in his Carnegie Hill apartment, “rolling around on the floor with [his] kids,” he says. And while that could be a typical Saturday morning for some families, the Popes would have every scene captured on film, surrounded by a crew of at least 20.

Daron, who led Tribe football as quarterback until an MCL tear, plays second fiddle to his wife on Bravo TV’s reality show Pregnant in Heels. The show follows Rosie as she spearheads Rosie Pope Maternity, a high-fashion maternity clothing line, and Mom Prep, a concierge that provides classes, tutorials, seminars and everything in between for prenatal and postpartum wellness.

On the brink of the show’s second season, which will premiere in mid-May, Daron sits surrounded by pregnant fashion forms, yards of printed fabric and piles of diaper bags. On his wrist are three LIVESTRONG-like bands. One remembers a friend and fellow William & Mary alum, Andy Crapol ’00, who died of esophageal cancer in 2009. Another reads “One Tribe. One Family.” and memorializes fallen soldier and another fellow alum Todd Weaver ’08, who died in Afghanistan in 2010. The other, though, strays from the Tribe theme, and is light purple.

“Oh, this,” Daron laughs. He describes it as a prototype for a Rosie Pope breastfeeding bracelet meant to remind new moms which breast they fed with last.

He waves the bracelet-clad hand in the air, scoffing at his 20-year-old self today becoming a near-expert in all things maternity. “I’d never in a million years have predicted this.”

The maternity idea, however shocking, was actually Daron’s, the brainchild of a newlywed argument. The two met while Rosie was studying neuroscience at Columbia University and married the brainchild of a newlywed argument. “I’d never in a million years have predicted this.”

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The first season was a little bit of trial by fire, he explains, because though the show was focusing on the women signing up for Rosie’s help, the storyline also followed Rosie and Daron on their struggles with in vitro fertilization to conceive a second child.

“Whatever was going on in our lives really diminished the cameras so I never really felt like I wanted them out of my face, like they got to a point of annoyance because I had so much going on that the cameras meant nothing to me,” he says.

The new episodes will take a lighter turn, considering the Pope family finally conceived and gave birth to now one-year-old Wells, named after Wellington Mara, the late co-owner of the New York Giants, who worked closely with Daron’s father, the Giants’ tight ends coach Michael Pope.

“I’ll be watching season two just like most viewers,” he says, as he won’t necessarily catch the episodes before they air.

Daron’s thoughts can be caught on Bravo.com, where he’ll be blogging along with each episode, taking a humorous tone to the show’s happenings. He also will undoubtedly be reliving one of season two’s greatest focuses: Rosie’s pregnancy with the couple’s third child, whose birth will be the last part of the last episode.

“It’s a girl,” he says, smiling as if he’s just won the lottery. “I’m definitely going to turn into mush. We joke that she’ll be called Rosie Jr.”
W&M Undergraduate Employment: a study

Accounting: 4%
Healthcare: 5%
Non-Profit: 6%
Finance: 8%
Government: 13%
Consulting: 13%
Education: 21%

70% of W&M seniors found careers in these fields after graduation.

Employed: 40% of W&M seniors

Five months after graduation, 25% are still looking for employment.

Top Employers of W&M Grads 2007-10:

- Fulbright
- PwC
- Ernst & Young
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- JPMorgan Chase
Memories Blossom
Alumni Young and Old(e) Return to a Campus in Bloom ~ MEGAN M. MORROW

Freshly manicured flowerbeds brimming with tulips, stretches of the Sunken Garden warmed by the sun, and the buzz of students preparing for graduation and a bright future; there is nothing quite as magical as springtime in Williamsburg.

~ An already active campus comes alive with students and faculty and staff members trying to make the most of the perfect balance of the warm sun and cool breezes. Lord Botetourt witnesses the increased foot traffic between Colonial Williamsburg and the College, both from students heading to grab a Cheese Shop sandwich after class and from tourists wanting to catch a glimpse of the second-oldest college in the country. The miles of trails around campus make the perfect place for an afternoon stroll, while some faculty members decide to venture outside of the lecture halls to hold class on the lawn. ~ Members of the campus community aren’t the only ones taking advantage of the beautiful weather and views. Springtime is also the time of year where alumni young and old come back to campus to share in memories and friendships that they first experienced as many as 70 years ago.
ALUMNI SPIRIT

April 20 marks the beginning of Young Guarde Weekend, when the campus and local hangouts can expect to be invaded by alumni who received their degrees within the past five years. Young Guarde Weekend is a relatively new event, designed to bring recent graduates back to their best Tribe memories.

The weekend features a wine and cheese event with select professors, a Cheese Shop lunch and a Green Leaf-style Mug Night. Throughout the weekend, alumni will have the opportunity to reconnect with classmates and explore the campus they originally fell in love with.

The following weekend, the class of 1962 will return to campus for their 50th Reunion. Although the campus has seen many changes since their commencement, the bonds of this Tribe will surely be strong as they spend three days reconnecting with each other. They will have several opportunities to learn about the current state of the College, with a lunch with President Reveley, a current student panel and a tour of campus on the itinerary.

That Sunday marks the most important event of the class's 50th Reunion: the Olde Guarde Induction and Service of Remembrance. Dressed in traditional commencement robes, the class will walk past Lord Botetourt and into the Wren Yard to be welcomed into the Olde Guarde. The day and a half that follows will be a celebration for old and new members of Olde Guarde to meet and reunite during the Olde Guarde Celebration and Olde Guarde Day.

Springtime in Williamsburg is a magical time. And for both young and old, it will be full of memories recounted and new memories made among the bricks and blooms.

Alumni Communications Snags Three CASE District III Awards

The William & Mary Alumni Association's communications office took home three CASE District III awards this February.

CASE, or the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, is an international organization dedicated to providing resources to higher education professionals and advancement and alumni relations offices. District III encompasses nine southeastern states and over 500 institutions.

Art Director Michael D. Bartolotta won a Grand Award for his wet-plate collodion photographs [1], used in the magazine’s three-part series on the Civil War. The judges called the entry an “amazing process” with “amazing results” and “one-of-a-kind.”

The William & Mary Alumni Magazine won the Award of Excellence [2], marking its second CASE District III award in two years.

A collaboration between the communications and alumni programs offices, the 2011 Homecoming mobile microsite and social media initiative [3] garnered the Special Merit Award.

Bartolotta’s wet-plate collodion photographs will be entered into the national CASE Circle of Excellence Awards, along with the magazine. The winners of all national awards will be announced later this year.
On Saturday, Feb. 4, the William & Mary Alumni Association awarded Alumni Medallions to three distinguished alumni: Joseph S. Agee ’52, M.Ed. ’56, Ruth W. Tillar ’45 and Henry C. Wolf ’64, J.D. ’66. The Alumni Medallion is the highest honor bestowed upon graduates by the Alumni Association.

The audience of family and friends, as well as faculty, staff and community members, filled the Commonwealth Auditorium in the Sadler Center for the ceremony, which was part of the larger Charter Day weekend schedule of events. Special guests at the ceremony included President W. Taylor Reveley III, Rector Jeffrey B. Trammell ’73 and newly installed Chancellor Robert M. Gates ’65, L.H.D. ’98.

The ceremony featured video tributes to each of the Medallion recipients, produced by members of the Alumni Association’s communications office. In their heartfelt acceptance speeches, each honoree took the opportunity to highlight the essential role that the College of William & Mary played in their formative years and the importance that supporting the College continues to play in their lives.

The tribute videos and the recipients’ acceptance speeches can be viewed at http://awmalumni.com/2012AlumniMedallion.

Three of W&M’s Finest Receive Alumni Medallion Award

Accepting Nominations for Alumni Board of Directors

Do you know an alumnus/alumna who would be a good candidate for election to the Alumni Association Board of Directors?

The Alumni Board of Directors, which meets twice a year, represents all alumni in general and financial policymaking for the Alumni Association. Other responsibilities include serving on ad hoc committees, participating in the Alumni Association’s major fundraising programs including the New York/D.C. Auctions and the Alumni Leadership Fund, advancing the Alumni Association’s mission both on campus and in their home areas, and assisting in stewardship and cultivation of alumni for leadership and volunteerism. Directors serve one four-year term.

The chair of the nominations committee is Clay Clemens ’80. You may contact the committee members online at www.wmalumni.com/?nom_cmte.

Nominations must arrive no later than June 1, 2012. Please use the nomination form located at www.wmalumni.com/?awards or call 757.221.7855 for assistance.

Elections will be held in September-October 2012. All alumni are eligible to vote. Please watch for more details in the Summer issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine.

Call for Nominations: Alumni Medallion Awards

The William & Mary Alumni Association calls for nominations for alumni to receive the 2013 Alumni Medallion.

The Alumni Medallion is the highest award the Alumni Association can bestow on a graduate of William & Mary. This award recognizes individuals who have exemplary accomplishments in their professional life, service to the community, state or nation, and loyalty and commitment to the College.

It is the intention of the Alumni Association that all three areas be evaluated and considered equally in determining exemplary achievement. However, there may be valid and compelling reasons when individuals are deemed worthy of consideration based largely on exceptional achievements in one or two areas that exceed levels attained by even the most accomplished or heralded Alumni Medallion recipients.

The Board makes its selections at their fall meeting in 2012. Nominations must be submitted on the form provided by the Alumni Association, which can be downloaded from www.wmalumni.com/?awards or can be requested by either calling 757.221.7855 or emailing alumni.evp@wm.edu. Instructions for submission are on the form. Deadline for submission is July 1, 2012.
Alumni Association Job Opportunity

Have you ever wanted to come back and work for your alma mater? The William & Mary Alumni Association is seeking someone who is interested in assisting alumni with career services. Preference is given to W&M graduates.

This career opportunity in Williamsburg is a great way to come back to William & Mary and assist fellow alumni. The Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement is a new, strategically important position and will work closely with the W&M Cohen Career Center, the Alumni Association Board of Directors and many campus and alumni constituent groups.

This is a unique and dynamic position that will be responsible for implementing an alumni mentorship program, managing LinkedIn communities and advancing alumni professional development. It is a position that you can make your own while providing an important service to alumni.

Visit www.wmalumni.com/jobs or email alumni.programs@wm.edu for more information.

Alumni Admission Weekend – June 15-16

Preparing your son or daughter for the admission process?

Learn more from an insider’s perspective, and have the opportunity to review actual applications to William & Mary as if you were on the admission committee.

For questions, email cadyke@wm.edu or call 757.221.1184.

Friday, June 15
2, 3 and 4 p.m. Interviews for Rising Seniors
1-5 p.m. Registration – Alumni House
5 p.m. Campus Tour (optional)
6:30-8:30 p.m. Welcome Dinner with President W. Taylor Reveley III

Saturday, June 16
All events held in the Sadler Center
8-9 a.m. Breakfast
9-10 a.m. “Beyond Getting Your Foot in the Door: The Admission Process in Perspective”
Henry Broaddus, Associate Provost of Enrollment
10:10-10:45 a.m. Hear from the Experts
David Kraus – Dean of Admission, Davidson College
Greg Roberts – Dean of Admission, University of Virginia
Diane McKoy – Senior Associate Director, Columbia University
10:45-11 a.m. Break
11:15 a.m. Case Study – Overview
Timothy Wolfe ’95, Senior Associate Dean of Admission
11:15-12:15 p.m. Case Study – Reading
12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch (Cheese Shop sandwiches)
1:15-2 p.m. Case Study – Committee Work
2:2-3:30 p.m. Case Study – Debriefing
2:30-3:30 p.m. Ask the Experts – Q&A session

A block of rooms has been reserved for the Alumni Admission Weekend at the Williamsburg Hospitality House for the rate of $89/night. Reservations may be made by calling the Williamsburg Hospitality House reservations desk at 800.932.9192. Deadline for hotel reservations is May 25, 2012.
Science for the Bay - IMPACT FOR THE WORLD

Research at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and the College of William and Mary’s School of Marine Science at VIMS reveals the richness and delicacy of estuary and coastal-ocean ecosystems. While our education, research and advisory work has worldwide impact, it all starts right here in Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science:
- Prepares graduate students for leadership roles in marine research, education and public policy nationally and internationally
- Provides science-based guidance and information to governments, industry and the public
- Generates knowledge to sustainably manage oysters, blue crabs, striped bass, tuna and other important marine species

Learn more about VIMS at vims.edu/wma
Rt. 1208 Greate Rd., Gloucester Pt., VA • 804.684.7000
Jeltje Loomans ’14 is a pioneer.

She traveled from the Netherlands to play tennis at William & Mary, thanks to the Dutch Tennis Federation and a coach from Florida — a journey in its own right.

“This was my choice because it was small,” she says. “It’s not too big of a school, it has a good tennis program and great academics.”

But shortly after she got here, she set herself further apart from many of the other current student athletes.

First, Loomans became only the sixth W&M freshman to qualify for the NCAA Singles Championships at the end of the 2010-11 season. While preparing for her match, she and a teammate were running on Busch Field when she came across associate field hockey coach Tess Ellis. Loomans had played field hockey until she was 12 years old.

“I thought, ‘I always enjoyed it [field hockey], and I wanted to crack some balls!’” she says. Ellis was impressed, and early jokes about joining the field hockey team became serious.

As a result, Loomans became a rarity in today’s Division I sports landscape: a two-sport athlete.

“Both of them are great things,” says Loomans. “In field hockey, you have a lot more girls around you and it’s way more diverse. In tennis, you’re a little closer with each other — there’s just 10 of us.”

It helps that Loomans is talented at both. Qualifying for NCAAs individually and winning the conference tennis title as a team stand out as highlights for her freshman year, as does notching the game-winning field hockey goal against Northeastern in September as a sophomore. While she sometimes feels as if she’s figuring out the balance on her own, she plans to play both sports for a while.

“Both coaches have been great,” she says. “I know how to manage things, so it’s a nice challenge.

“I liked it, so why not?”
Will Smith ’14 was sick of golf. After 13 tournaments in a single summer during high school, he was “burned out” on golf and became strictly a soccer player. Joining the Tribe was at the top of his list, so Smith arrived in Williamsburg with a single focus.

“Soccer’s my first passion,” he says. “The soccer team is the most important thing — that’s why I’m here.”

But after taking his senior year of high school off from the links, Smith began to feel the itch again when he got to campus. On a whim, he decided to try to qualify for the U.S. Amateur Championships in August 2010. He did — and while he didn’t play well at the championships, the desire to play had returned.

“I was a freshman at a perennial top-25 team in Division I soccer, and I’m going to play golf?” he says, laughing. “What am I doing here?”

In the meantime, Smith gained a spot in the starting 11 for the Tribe and didn’t think about golf much at all afterward. His skills on the field, he says, are rooted in good communication and field vision, and landed him the starting spot.

This past fall, though, he heard about someone who was playing two Division I sports in the same year: Jeltje Loomans. Smith’s scores were competitive with the current Tribe golf team, and he began to think golf may be a post-graduation career option. Smith was inspired.

“I went to talk to [head men’s soccer] Coach Norris, but I really didn’t think he was going to say yes,” says Smith. But Norris was willing to support him in post-W&M career options and he appeared on the golf roster not long after.

For Smith, keeping up with spring soccer practice and the long hours on the golf course is a challenge, to say nothing of the normal W&M coursework.

“Pretty much every day I’m eating lunch on the fly,” he says. “I’m either doing work or on the way to practice one sport or the other. It’s definitely a grind.”

One tournament in March caused him to miss a few days of practice, which “really bothers” him, because he values time spent with his teammates.

“That’s what gets me going for the practices I can be there for, though,” he adds. “I know I have to work that much harder.”

Each athlete, though, has to balance the differing mentalities in their sports. For Loomans, it’s the team ethic of field hockey balanced with the mental toughness of tennis; for Smith, the intensity of soccer and the relaxed focus of golf. Each has their own methods of preparation, but as they get comfortable with their dual roles, it will get easier.

“In field hockey, you focus more on what the team is going to do,” Loomans says. “Tennis is about you and your opponent.”

“Soccer is a team sport; there’s so much less riding on your individual performance, but golf is extremely individual,” says Smith. “Eighteen holes is a long time to stay focused. They’re two very different mindsets.”
Lord Botetourt Affair draws record crowd, cash

The College of William & Mary’s Athletic Department’s fundraising arm, the Tribe Club, raised a record amount of more than $173,000 during its premier auction event of the year, the Lord Botetourt Affair, held recently at the College’s Mason School of Business.

“The event was a tremendous success,” said Bobby Dwyer, the longtime director of the Tribe Club. “Our chairs, Lauris Edwards Zeni ’72 and Betsy Anderson ’70, did an incredible job of making it an evening to remember. We had a record number of attendees and raised a fantastic amount toward supporting our mission of providing William & Mary student-athletes with the best possible experience during their athletic careers.”

The auction was themed around “Tribe for Life,” and guests were encouraged to enjoy the evening in black-tie attire and sneakers. More than 300 items were donated as part of the live and silent auctions, while nearly $70,000 was raised in separate sponsorships.

In all, a record 344 guests participated in the fun, assisted by more than 40 student volunteers. Including this year, the Lord Botetourt event has now been a complete sellout for the past decade.

All proceeds from the Botetourt Affair go directly to the Tribe Club. Because the Athletics Department receives no state funding, the Tribe depends on its many alumni, friends and corporate partners to provide our student-athletes with a first-class athletics experience.

— Tribe Athletics
William & Mary football Head Coach Jimmye Laycock ‘70 opened spring practice recently with a slight change in gameplan. For years, his players had been involved with activities like community events, visiting hospitals, and working at schools, though usually as individuals or in small groups.

“Coach said he wanted us to do something as a team,” Brent Caprio ‘13 said. “He said he even had a specific charity in mind.”

That charity is Avalon, a center for women and children that has served the Williamsburg area for more than 30 years. Its list of services not only supports victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault, but educates the community in an effort to end relationship violence.

On March 18, the football team sponsored a car wash and wish-list drive to benefit Avalon at three local businesses: American Pride Automotive, Wasabi Oriental Buffet and Exxon Mobil Gas Station.

“We’re hoping to raise between $4,000 and $5,000,” Caprio, a quarterback, said. “In addition to selling pre-pads, we’re starting to get some donations from alumni.”

In addition to raising money for Avalon, the team also collected “wish list” items for the center. Desirable items include paper towels, toilet paper, toothpaste, garbage bags, cleaning products and dry laundry detergent. All proceeds from the event went directly to Avalon.

“We’re calling this the ‘inaugural’ car wash for a reason,” Caprio said. “Hopefully, this will become an annual event, an annual way for this football team to give something back to the community.”

Any inquiries about the event may be made to the William & Mary football office, in care of Zbig Kepa at 757.221.3376.

— Jim Ducibella, W&M News

Tribe soccer helping Stowe ’11 battle cancer
The Tribe soccer family has created a website to support former Tribe men’s soccer player Ian Stowe’s ‘11 battle with cancer: StoweStrong.com. The website was created to spread awareness about his current situation. The site will help offset the impending medical expenses associated with his treatment program and updates as to the status of his road to recovery. Complete information can be found at StoweStrong.com.

Former soccer coach Albert honored by coaching association
Former Head Men’s Soccer Coach and current Associate Director of Development Al Albert ’69 was recently presented with the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) 2011 Honor Award at the organization’s annual awards banquet in Kansas City, Mo. Albert became the head soccer and lacrosse coaches in 1971. He stepped down as lacrosse coach in 1977. The result was a 33-year soccer career that included an overall record of 401-187-64.

Hewitt Qualifies for Olympic Trials
Hailey Hewitt ’12 became the first Tribe swimmer to qualify for the 2012 Olympic Trials in March with her 200m backstroke at the Columbus Grand Prix. At this summer’s Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb., (June 25–July 2), Hewitt can qualify for the London Olympics as long as she places first or second and under the Olympic standard. Hewitt would become just the second Tribe swimmer ever to compete at the Olympic Trials.

McDowell wins CAA leadership award
On March 1, basketball forward Quinn McDowell ’12 became the first player in CAA history to earn the Dean Ehlers Leadership Award on two occasions. The award is given to the student-athlete who “embodies the highest standards of leadership, integrity and sportsmanship in conjunction with his academic athletic achievement.” McDowell is the vice-president of the W&M Student-Athlete Advisory Council and one of the select students to serve as a President’s Aide.
The undergraduate experience at William & Mary is evolving. In addition to traditional classroom instruction, students and faculty are collaborating daily on important research projects with implications that reach far beyond the boundaries of the College’s historic campus.

Unlike many larger universities, where research opportunities are often geared more toward graduate students, William & Mary faculty members work closely with undergraduates and tailor research programs to provide a strong foundation for careers or further education.

“It does take time to train undergraduates, but there’s something really special about getting them started and giving them the foundation they need to move on their career,” said Assistant Professor Catherine Forestell.

William & Mary Honors Fellowships, a unique Web-based initiative that allows alumni and friends all over the country to read about the research plans of juniors who are about to embark on their honors research and to select an individual project to receive their funding, is one initiative that facilitates undergraduate research. Last summer, 22 William & Mary students conducted fully-funded research alongside faculty advisors. The fellowships, supported through private donations, make it possible for undergraduates to conduct intensive research by covering associated costs. Last summer’s 22 fellows were a dramatic increase over the 12 students each who were funded in 2009 and 2010.

The opportunity to work closely with students on research is also a draw for faculty members, according to Associate Professor Anne Charity Hudley. But she noted a need for greater support to keep William & Mary on par with other top universities in terms of student research opportunities.

“We’re doing a good job with what we have, but to me, it’s clear where more funding support could help,” Charity Hudley said. “It’s critical because additional funding can take what a dedicated mentor and a really amazing student can do and just totally change it.”

Kenay Sudler ’12, a linguistics major, is interested in pursuing a career in speech language pathology. That’s what sparked her interest in the situation faced by speech language pathologists who speak English with an accent from a second language. Along with Charity Hudley, she is researching the topic for her honors thesis.

“There is an undeniable consensus in the research that an unfamiliar accent correlates with more processing time on the part of the listener to understand that accent; however there is little research that specifically looks at the implications of this for professionals and clients in the speech language pathology field,” Sudler said.

Charity Hudley said Sudler picked “a great topic.”

“We don’t know a lot about how the way the speech pathologist speaks impacts that client’s experience,” Charity Hundley said.

Much like Charity Hudley, Forestell said she appreciates the way the College values both teaching and research, and the opportunity to dedicate her time to both.

“There is a lot of support for research here,” she said.

Forestell is advising neuroscience major Stephanie Kane ’12, who is conducting research on whether diets high in saturated fat impair a part of the brain important for memory, which plays a role in regulating eating behavior.

“The point of doing research like this is to look at what kind of preventative measures people should take and to know what people are up against when they’re trying to prevent and treat obesity,” she said.

The idea came about when Forestell told Kane about similar research involving rat models. Forestell said Kane’s topic is complex, but has the potential to lead to several papers when it’s finished.
“Stephanie’s study actually will answer many questions about adult eating patterns and obesity that I hope to pursue further in my line of research,” Forestell said, adding that she and Kane had previously coauthored a paper on another study regarding eating behavior in an undergraduate sample. 

Tim Becker ’12 is a mathematics major, but his honors project has the potential to help researchers at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS). Becker, with assistance from faculty advisors — professors Junping Shi from mathematics, Rom Lipcius from VIMS and Leah Shaw from applied sciences — is developing and analyzing a model for the blue crab population in Chesapeake Bay.

“For me, this research encapsulates two of the things that I love doing: mathematical study and working in nature,” Becker said. Becker is working with the differential equations model he, Lipcius, Shaw and Shi developed. Specifically, they are studying the effect of harvesting and cannibalism, which is prevalent among blue crabs, on the species’ population.

Shi praised the interdisciplinary nature of Becker’s research, which fits into the College’s biomathematics initiative.

“This whole project is not just mathematics; it’s a combination of mathematics and biology,” Shi said. “So I think that’s definitely very good for students so they can get experience with different branches interwoven together.”

The research conducted by Becker, Kane and Sudler represents real, original work that has the potential to make a significant impact.

After Sudler picked her topic, she reviewed a new American Speech-Language-Hearing Association policy paper about speech pathology students who speak with accents, which she said validated the need for her study.

“My preliminary results show that more discussion about the place of accent in the field is definitely necessary — and more quantitative research is essential,” she said.

Kane’s work could impact the prevention and treatment of obesity, while Becker’s findings could be beneficial to VIMS’s efforts to bring Chesapeake Bay’s blue crab population back to historic levels.

“The high quality of students is a real asset here at William & Mary,” Forestell said. Forestell and Charity Hudley said undergraduate students often play critical roles in their own research.

“Students really get to see the start to the finish,” Charity Hudley said. “When you’re doing work in communities, you have to see all the pieces. Getting the information is only a part of it. You have to learn how to be effective when you’re doing the work.”

Despite long hours and challenging work, students say the experience has been enjoyable and worthwhile.

“I have enjoyed every minute of it, and I am considering going into graduate study in mathematical biology because of how much I have learned from working with knowledgeable professors in this field,” Becker said.

A new list of prospective honors students is available on the website: http://honorsfellowships.wm.edu/. “We encourage alumni and friends to visit this site and donate to a project that catches their eye,” said Joel Schwartz, director of the Charles Center. “The senior honors thesis is the culmination of a series of mentored research opportunities that for many students started in the freshman year,” he said. “With its emphasis on engaged learning and rigorous scholarship, the honors program embodies everything that we value most highly in our undergraduate program.”

—Nicholas Langhorne
T ric Wesp ’76 is the uncrowned empress of costume design at William & Mary. If she ever wants to be a crowned empress, all she has to do is make a selection from the enormous stock of crowns, coronets, tiaras, diadems and the like housed within her domain in Phi Beta Kappa Hall.

As a sophomore, Wesp had a work-study job in the Costume Shop where she made some costumes for Glenn Close ’74. The two also were in some of the same productions and classes. Wesp returned to teach at her alma mater in 1983, after earning an M.F.A. in theatre with an emphasis in design from the University of Florida. She, her assistants and a rotating staff of students have dressed hundreds of characters for thousands of productions at William & Mary, plying their magic from the Costume Shop and its adjacent stockroom, home to all those crowns, several thousand other garments and accessories and possibly a ghost named Nicholas.

Theatrical costume design is a calling that weaves together large quantities of scholarship, esthetics and practicality. The costumer works in collaboration with other designers — lighting, stage and sound — and, of course, the director.
The production team for a William & Mary Theatre production of Night of the Iguana, Tennessee Williams’ sex-and-redemption drama, which opened in February, got together in mid-December. Around the table was Richard Palmer, professor of theatre, who was directing Iguana, along with lighting designer Christopher Owens, associate professor of theatre and director of the Virginia Shakespeare Festival, the lighting designer; and Steven Hollliday, associate professor of theatre, the set designer.

Iguana deals with the psychological struggles of a disgraced clergyman and those around him at a cheap Mexican hotel. Among the Rev. Mr. Shannon’s troubles is that he has to choose between the affections of Maxine, the promiscuous widowed proprietor of the Mexican hotel, and Hannah, a spinster supporting herself and her grandfather through selling her own artwork. It becomes clear early on that the costumes for the two women represent greater creative and practical challenges than dressing the male lead, for whom Wesp has figured for a white suit, suitably rumpled.

“What do you want me to know about Hannah?” Wesp asks in the meeting. “What kind of contrast exists between her and Maxine?”

“Well, there needs to be some kind of sexual tension between Hannah and Shannon,” Palmer replied. “If we assume from the get-go that Hannah is inaccessible, the scene goes nowhere.”

For the other female lead, Maxine, the question of sexual tension is a matter of degree.

“I’m wondering about Maxine,” Palmer said to the production team. “Is she a sexual gorgon? Or is she the ‘Stella’ type, someone with a healthy, cheerful knowledge of her own body?”

In early February, Wesp had some ideas on how to dress Maxine and Hannah and even more ideas on what she wants to avoid. She has taken into account a number of considerations, beginning with the original script and Palmer’s interpretation of it. The physical attributes of the actresses cast in the two parts are a part of the process, of course, as is the history of fashion. And, as a creative artist, Wesp has her own take on things.

Patricia Wesp ‘76 has a very large closet.

Wesp notes that Maxine’s unconscious slovenliness parallels her unconscious sexuality, in comparison to Hannah’s careful, if threadbare, appearance and ambiguous sexuality. Creating the wardrobe for the sensual spinster is a different challenge.

“Maxine seems to me like somehow she’s more of a tailored kind of look, whereas we’re going to try and keep Hannah in a slightly softer set of curves,” Wesp explained. She was leaning toward dressing Hannah in the clothing styles of the late 1930s: “Thirties clothing tended to round out the contours of the female body a little bit more.” She says that the pragmatic Hannah would probably select a dress over a skirt and blouse for traveling in steamy Mexico.

“In terms of the practicality of keeping clothes together when you’re traveling like that, a skirt and blouse doesn’t stay put together as well as a dress does,” she explained. “The blouse is always coming untucked, you end up looking a little sloppier.”

Costume design is often easier for period Shakespeare characters, Wesp said, as few members of the audience know a doublet and farthingale and therefore are less likely to pick up on wardrobe anachronisms as they might in a more contemporary setting. Once the costumes are designed, they must be created. Wesp can draw on the contents of her stockroom, but many costumes must be constructed and every one of them must be altered and adjusted. Each costume requires at least two fitting sessions and some as many as 12 or 14.

The Costume Shop is known for alterations on the heroic scale. Wesp recalls the time that Costume Shop Manager Mary Jo Damon invested 30 hours in cutting down a man’s suit from a size 58 to 48 for “Cabaret.”

“It had all the tailoring we wanted in the front of the coat, so by taking out the sleeves, chopping it up, moving the proportions in, we avoided having to do a great deal of the tailoring,” she explained. “I think we spent six dollars on that suit.”

In addition to such backstage costume triumphs, there are also occasional wardrobe malfunctions. Wesp is reluctant to talk about her mishap, but if you must know, it happened in February of 1974, at the end of the first musical number in the second act of Cole Porter’s Anything Goes. She was a student member of the chorus.

“We were in a half circle out on the edge of the apron behind the footlights. The blocking called for the girls to jump into the guys’ arms as the song ends, and we had our arms over our heads in a V.” Wesp explains, “and the dress ended up not in precisely the place where it was supposed to be.”

Wesp followed the standard chorus protocol for wardrobe-malfunction response: Stay still, keep smiling and hope nobody notices. “And then you realize the guy holding you is laughing and shaking,” she said. “They noticed.”
BIOGRAPHY

Before his passing, William “Tree” Rountree ’66 wrote his autobiography, appropriately titled Tree (Koehler Books, 2011). The book details his work in the banks of Hampton Roads, Va., as well as his entries into the fields of archaeology, oil speculation, motel ownership, fishing and wine. In his later life, Rountree discusses the adoption of his eye-patch (featured on the cover), religious discovery and other life philosophies.

EDUCATION

R. Brigham Lampert M.Ed. ’07 provides a valuable guide to teaching one of William Shakespeare’s classic plays in Advanced Placement Classroom: King Lear (Prufrock Press, 2012). Lampert, a 2006 Disney Teacher Award nominee, shows teachers how to conduct daily interpretive readings, hosting seminar discussions and making the play relevant to a modern audience. The Prufrock series invites teachers to go above and beyond to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement tests.

FICTION

The Adventures of Hood & Fudd: Taming the Eastern Frontier (Capital City Books, 2010) by J. Bradford Lawler ’84 is a tale of a young man who returns home to Botetourt County, Va., in 1888 with revenge on his mind. Before long, he is wrestling with his mixed white-and-Cherokee heritage as well as the rage that remains about his father’s murder. The book includes a map of the setting as well as illustrations accompanying each chapter.

Combining vast medical knowledge and a gripping story, Winfred Ward ’54 and Adrian Eissler ’02 joined forces to write Felony Dementia (Black Hat Books, 2011). In the novel, corporate lawyer Tyler Harrison Jr. has to fight the medical establishment to get the drug that may cure the disease that plagued his father — and may affect him, too. As he searches the streets of Richmond, Va., for clues to the conspiracy, he must battle the FDA, the FBI and the police.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

The story of the Oregon Trail is familiar to anyone who came across the classic educational computer game in the ’80s and ’90s. Now, the story is retold in graphic novel format by David Lasky ’90 and Frank Young in Oregon Trail: The Road to Destiny (Sasquatch Books, 2011). Through the eyes of 11-year-old Rebecca Weston, the story of the Weston family traveling west from Baltimore includes maps, inventories and diagrams of the trappings of the trail.

HEALTH


In The ABC’s of Mental Health: Ten Chapters to Healing (Dr. Noel Goldberg, 2011) is an outline of a philosophy that has come to assist many patients of Noel Goldberg Psy.D. ’02. In particular, his methods assisted the military veterans who came to him for assistance. His outlook on mental illness is translated here into language for the layperson to use, examining a number of issues and their practical solutions, including changing attitudes and medication.
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Shaken Faith
The National Cathedral Recovers From a Quake

By Ben Kennedy ’05

Deep below the small town of Mineral, Va., in the heat of August, something slipped.

The earth’s crust moved abruptly at 1:51 p.m. and Virginia’s largest earthquake since 1897 was born. The shaking was felt from Atlanta to Toronto.

In most of Washington, D.C., the quake only sparked some snarky comments on the Internet. A photo was widely circulated of an overturned lawn chair with the caption “WE WILL REBUILD.” But at the Washington National Cathedral — it was no joke. The quake caused $20 million in damage. The repairs may take a decade.

Upon his arrival in Washington in 1980, photographer Bill Geiger ’77 was missing something. In search of the peace he usually found in nature, he made “a pilgrimage” to the National Cathedral.

“I was taken immediately by the nave and how much it seemed almost a metaphor for nature,” he says. “It was like an alley of American elm trees.”

It was “serendipitous” and perfect for meditation, he says. “Eventually I ended up taking pictures.”

On assignment to photograph Rowan LeCompte, the designer of the cathedral’s spectacular stained-glass West Rose Window, Geiger began developing a relationship with the cathedral’s communications staff. By 1995, Geiger had finished photography for the National Cathedral’s official guidebook and other publications. One of the advantages, he says, was having access to the building before the public.

“On a given morning,” he says, “you might hear a children’s choir from Canada practicing with their beautiful voices, soaring through the nave and echoing around the stone.”

On another morning, the cathedral served as a dramatic setting for Charles Fulcher ’99. The group tours coordinator at the National Cathedral, Fulcher had arranged a special moment for him and his wife Becky at the top of its central tower. The sun was rising over Washington, D.C., and the moment had arrived. There had been no earthquake yet.

“I proposed to my wife up here,” he says. “Now it’s deep underneath scaffolding.”

Do we still need hard hats?” asks Leigh Harrison ’02, the cathedral’s communications manager, before ascending to the top of the central tower, where the quake caused the building to move most dramatically. We do not.

“Let me know if anything fell off up there,” says Joe Alonso with a smile. Alonso is head mason for the cathedral and the man who laid its final stone in 1990. Construction on this, the world’s sixth-largest cathedral, took exactly 83 years to the day. The earthquake lasted only a few seconds.

Alonso’s smile is half-joking. On the day of the quake, Alonso climbed the long spiral staircases that lead to the top of the central tower. As he surveyed the damage, his voice changed. Each one of the tower’s four grand pinnacles had been damaged: one had fallen completely and the other three looked fragile enough to crumble at the slightest touch.

“What it sounded like to me was an upstairs neighbor throwing over a metallic filing cabinet,” says Charles Fulcher. “It wasn’t until later that we realized that some of the stones that fell off the northwest tower fell onto the roof just about directly above our heads.” A perimeter was established shortly after the quake to keep staff and visitors out of harm’s way. And in the face of the ever-expanding boundary, volunteer docents continued to speak to guests, trying to help them make sense of the ordeal.

“The way people invest in this place, they’re here for a while,” says Fulcher. “For volunteers and staff, when they’re here, they give their all. We have volunteer docents who
have been at the cathedral for 10, 20, 30 years.”

The cathedral during the quake behaved like a whip, explains Fulcher. A small amount of shaking at the base can cause the violent “crack” at the very end of the whip. In the case of a tall stone building, the most vulnerable parts are on its towers. The place where Fulcher proposed to his wife, high above Washington at sunrise, was falling apart.

“The most immediate effort was completely inspecting all of the damage,” says Harrison. “Every square inch of the cathedral. We placed nets under the vaulted ceiling of the nave and took every single possible precaution.” After 82 million of work, the damage was finally stabilized. Fulcher’s department was moved to a separate wing for 10 weeks before they were allowed to come back.

The normal roof of the tower is now covered in dense scaffolding, put in place only weeks after the quake. Nearly every spire has shifted off its base slightly; more than a few cracks have appeared and there are a number of pieces that have fallen off entirely. One gargoyle was fully severed from the rest of the cathedral, hanging only by the lead drain pipe that fed through its mouth, hundreds of feet above the ground.

Fulcher and Harrison say only two major buildings in Washington suffered notable damage in the earthquake: the cathedral and the Washington Monument, both built using traditional methods of masonry. The cathedral does not have a modern steel frame holding it together — the flying buttresses and stone do all that work instead.

“The general physics of a medieval cathedral are still at play here,” says Fulcher. “It's stone on top of stone.”

Very few major cathedrals in the world have been built as quickly as the National Cathedral. Despite its status as an important location in the spiritual life of America — presidential funerals are held here — neither the federal government nor the Episcopal Church contributed any funds toward its construction. Private donors, many of whom would not live to see the building completed, provided every dollar. It’s the staff’s responsibility to take care of that commitment.

“Cathedrals are actually very organic buildings that grow and change over centuries and even millennia,” says Harrison. “They do need to be taken care of; they don’t do this all by themselves. That’s kind of what we’re here for.”

Fulcher adds that even before the quake, the cathedral was already seeking funds for deferred and long-term preservation work.

“The earthquake has been that sort of crystallizing moment for a lot of people,” he says. “This place does need money just to keep the doors open.”

In the early 20th century, the most important donors to the National Cathedral Association (NCA) were called “Master Builders.” The Association is older than the cathedral itself, having been founded in 1899 prior to the laying of the first stone in 1907. Now, to remind current NCA members of the importance of preserving the cathedral, the staff sends out an e-newsletter called “Master Builders.” It’s important to remind them, Harrison says, that they can be part of rebuilding too.

The rebuilding effort has not been easy, though. A few weeks after the quake hit, the large crane that was helping to place the 70 tons of steel beams and scaffolding on the main tower collapsed, crushing a number of vehicles in the surrounding parking lots. Had the crane fallen a few dozen feet in another direction, it would have destroyed significant portions of the cathedral itself.

“If you’re going to have a 500-foot crane collapse,” says Fulcher; “you couldn’t do any better.”

Harrison does take some comfort in knowing that Canterbury Cathedral in England lost its bells and campanile in an earthquake in 1382. Its magnitude was estimated to be 5.8 as well. “We’re much luckier than that,” he says.

In the end, the cathedral, its staff and many supporters will be carried forward by both the building’s historic nature and its status as a living, breathing part of American religious culture.

“It’s a site of historic and cultural significance that is alive,” says Fulcher. “And that’s what I loved in the Wren Building. It’s active and it’s living. It’s the kind of place that inspires me and inspires a lot of people.”

One of those people, three decades later, is photographer Bill Geiger. Having lived for years in the same ZIP code as the cathedral, shooting there is a personal project.

“The persuasive power of the cathedral became more pronounced as I began to realize that this isn’t just a great building,” says Geiger. “It’s thousands of works of art, all of them having the ability to insinuate themselves into your life.”

“Preserving the cathedral is a relay race and all of us have the baton,” says Harrison. “We can’t choose who gets the baton after us, but we know we have to run as hard as we can while we have it.”

No natural disaster can shake that kind of resolve.
The temporary scaffolding set up around the Cathedral’s towers can be seen from miles away.

This gargoyle is one of several unique (and hand-carved) features that were damaged during the earthquake.
On Feb. 24, the W&M men's swimming team earned its highest finish since 2001 — third — at the CAA Championships. Notably, Kemp Pettyjohn '15 earned his second silver medal of the meet in the 1650-meter freestyle, earning All-CAA honors.
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THE NEXT CHAPTER

BY BEN KENNEDY ’05

It was not his intention to become chancellor. After decades in public service and academia, Robert M. Gates had planned to relax and work on his books in his lakeside home.

“That was still my attitude when President Reveley first approached me,” said Gates in his Charter Day speech on Feb. 3. “…Then I thought about this great institution, what it has meant to me personally and its special place in the history of our country. … The decision to become your next chancellor became very easy, very fast.”

And so, amidst a standing ovation in Kaplan Arena, Gates became the 24th Chancellor of the College of William & Mary. Gates became the first alumnus to do so in the station’s modern era, a fact that had “a real influence” on his decision. He succeeds the 23rd chancellor, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, who President Reveley called “incomparable” and “inimitable.”

The College’s new chancellor takes up the mantle after a career in the U.S. government, ascending to CIA Director and later as Secretary of Defense. “I noticed that the charter of 1693 called for a chancellor who was, quote, ‘eminent and discreet,’” said Gates during his speech. “I’m well behind the curve in the eminence department. But when it comes to discretion, you’ve got the right guy. I definitely know how to keep a secret.”

In front of a crowd of thousands, dressed in green robes with shining gold trim, however, Gates was surprisingly glib. “I had no idea about the Chancellor’s regalia,” he said. “[It’s] a unique blending of medieval academic tradition and Lady Gaga.”

He continued with a series of anecdotes on his student days and work in the federal government. While living in Bryan Hall, Gates was often rudely awoken by mysterious noises coming from the nearby Camp Peary installation — so “the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency began keeping me awake at night long before I became a senior official there,” he said with a smile.

Gates came to Williamsburg for his investiture amidst significant fanfare. The day before the Charter Day ceremony, he appeared on CNN’s John King USA, which broadcasted live from the College Yard on Feb. 2. King sat in front of an estimated crowd of 700, some of whom held signs touting W&M as “Jefferson’s First University.” One particularly notable sign was a giant cutout of Gates’ head.

While in town, he also found time for some private reflection. “Late one night that I was there [for Charter Day], I did what I often did as a student,” he said later in February. “I walked from campus down to the Capitol and back along Duke of Gloucester Street. I was struck by how few people were on the street.”

Also during Charter Day Weekend, Gates sat down with University Relations and the Alumni Magazine to discuss his time at the College and his plans for retirement and the chancellorship. Shortly after arriving on campus, Gates said he became influenced by professors in the history, government and English departments and started drawing nearer to a life of public service.

“You don’t have to be a full time public servant to contribute service to your community, your state or your country,” he said. He added that he plans to “add my voice” to the College community on topics related to service and engagement.

Furthermore, Gates indicated a willingness to help on one of the College’s most pressing concerns: private giving. He cited his experience as president of Texas A&M as influential.

“I know better than most, the growing importance of private giving, particularly to public universities,” he added. “If I can...
make a contribution, I am going to try and do that."

Having retired to the Pacific Northwest — “as far from Washington, D.C., as I can get in the continental United States,” as he told the Alumni Magazine in 2009 — Gates will spend much of his time between Williamsburg visits working on his books. The first book, tentatively titled Duty, will be his second memoir, to follow 1996’s From the Shadows: The Ultimate Insider’s Story of Five Presidents and How They Won the Cold War. He will succeed that with a book about leadership to be published the following year.

He continued his Charter Day speech with pointed commentary regarding today’s politics.

“I do believe that we are now in uncharted territory when it comes to the dysfunction in our political system,” said Gates. “It appears that as a result of several polarizing trends in American politics and culture, we have lost the ability to execute even the basic functions of government, much less solve the most difficult and divisive problems facing this country.”

The solution, Gates said, will come from the center of the political spectrum, those with the least partisanship and vitriol.

Appointed by President Bush in 2006, Gates retired in June of last year as President Obama’s defense secretary — the first secretary to serve under presidents from opposing political parties.

“Critical ideas and progress in our history have often come from thinkers and ideologues on both the left and the right,” he said. “But the laws and policies that ultimately have implemented the best of those ideas have come from the vital political center.”

His speech, in the end, concluded on a note of hopefulness.

“Even though we have a lot of work to do, and enormous obstacles ahead of us, we also have the power and means to overcome them — just as this country has overcome worse episodes in the past,” said Gates. “It will take a willingness to make tough decisions, the clear-eyed realism to see the world as it is rather than as we would like it to be, the willingness to listen and to learn from one another, an ability to see and understand other points of view, and the wisdom to calibrate principles and compromise for the greater good of our country.

“I have no doubt that the graduates and scholars of William & Mary — this community of learning, listening and working through issues — rooted in the original soil and the basic principles of American liberty, have a special role, and a special obligation, to be part of the solution.”

[Students] shouldn’t think of leadership and public service as historical monuments at William & Mary,” he added later. “Rather, they’re something that applies as much to them as it does to those others who have come before.”

Additional reporting contributed by Brian Whitson, W&M News
Break Out Your Letter Sweater.

Remember the thrill of ringing the Wren Bell on your final day of classes? Or the parties at the old boat house on Lake Matoaka? Now you can reflect upon those and other memories of that proud campus from only five minutes away at your new home in Williamsburg Landing — again voted the area’s number one Continuing Care Retirement Community.

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*By Virginia Gazette Reader’s Survey.
It started with a disagreement over pronunciation — or maybe it was politics. It ended with a man getting shot.

When Robert Barraud Taylor and John Randolph of Roanoke were students at William & Mary in the 1790s, they didn’t exactly get along. While participating in a debating society, the two Virginians got into a heated argument.

Accounts differ on the subject of the men’s quarrel but whatever the reason, it was enough for Taylor to challenge Randolph to a duel.

The two men were very different in both appearance and politics. Taylor was the handsome son of a Norfolk merchant who was a three-time mayor. A budding Federalist, he came to the College in 1791 to study law.

John Randolph of Roanoke couldn’t have been more different than Taylor. Slight of build, his voice had never changed, he was beardless, and one colleague later described him as “a skeleton, endowed with those flashing eyes which ghost-stories give to the reanimated body when sent upon some earthly mission.” Randolph suffered from a long history of physical problems that he treated with opium, mercury, morphine and heavy drinking. A burgeoning Jeffersonian, he was already demonstrating the devastating intellect and wicked wit for which he would become known in Congress.

Randolph was never a fan of formal education. He had spent years bouncing around institutions before coming to William & Mary. While staying with his stepfather, St. George Tucker (who would serve as professor of law at the College) he enrolled in a few classes. It was here that Randolph first encountered Taylor.

David E. Johnson ’83, Virginia’s deputy attorney general of health, education and social services, recently authored a biography of Randolph titled John Randolph of Roanoke, which will come out in May. According to Johnson, a political dispute was most likely the cause of the duel.
“If I was guessing, I would probably say it was about the French Revolution,” Johnson says.

Other sources say the duel was about pronunciation, about which Randolph was known for being a stickler. Even on his deathbed, he corrected a person’s mispronunciation of the word omnipotent.

Whatever the reason, the men agreed to duel. Both knew that if the College found out about the incident, the consequence would be expulsion. Ever the autodidact, Randolph decided to sever his ties with William & Mary beforehand.

Though little more is known about the duel, the history books record that on Feb. 6, 1793, these two men met at a field near Williamsburg, aimed their pistols, and shot.

Six years after the duel, Randolph was elected to the Sixth United States Congress at the age of 26. He served multiple terms in the House and one in the Senate. On the House floor, Randolph was known for his striking appearance, preferring to address the chamber in riding boots, surrounded by his hunting dogs.

For the first two and a half years of Jefferson’s presidency, Randolph drafted and introduced practically every bill in line with Jefferson’s agenda. The men were cousins, and this close alliance lasted until Randolph broke away from Jefferson and founded the Tertium Quids, a faction of the Democratic-Republican Party. While Randolph and Jefferson might not have always seen eye to eye, it was in a Kentucky politician named Henry Clay that Randolph would find his most famous foil.

According to Johnson, one of the reasons that Clay was elected Speaker of the House on his first day in Congress was that legislators knew he could do battle with Randolph — both figuratively and literally. “They knew it had to be someone that was a good debater, but also someone who could meet on the field of honor if necessary,” Johnson says. “Randolph would resort to duels, and Clay had been in several duels back in Kentucky.”

On the first day of Congress, Randolph entered the House floor with his hunting dogs. Clay ordered that he remove them. “That was their start,” Johnson says. “They were destined to disagree with one another.”

Their arguments were many. Once, Randolph tried to block a tariff bill from coming to a vote by speaking for three hours. Clay tried to interrupt numerous times, provoking Randolph to quip “I labor under two great misfortunes — one is that I can never understand the honorable Speaker; the other is that he can never understand me.”

But their most famous altercation was over the issue of diplomacy with South America. In a speech that lasted more than four hours, Randolph attacked President John Quincy Adams and then-Secretary of State Clay, calling them “the puritan and the blackleg.” A blackleg was the equivalent
of calling someone a swindler or a cheat, and Clay was offended enough to challenge Randolph to a duel.

Randolph accepted, under one condition: “He demanded that the duel be fought in Virginia, because he said only Virginia’s soil was worthy of receiving his blood,” Johnson says.

The duel took place on the Virginian side of the Potomac, not far from the Chain Bridge, on April 8, 1826. At half-past four and a distance of 10 paces, they took their first shots. Clay’s bullet hit the ground behind Randolph, Randolph’s struck a stump. Both demanded another round.

Clay shot first, connecting only with Randolph’s coat skirt. Randolph fired up into the air and exclaimed “I do not fire at you, Mr. Clay.”

They shook hands, and Randolph said “You owe me a coat, Mr. Clay.” “I am glad the debt is no greater,” Clay responded.

Randolph went on to serve at the Virginia Constitutional Convention of 1829-1830, and was later appointed the United States Minister to Russia. The travel and the harsh conditions of Russia plagued his already fragile health. He served only 28 days in St. Petersburg before his flagging energy forced him to return to America.

Upon his return, he was elected to the House again, where he served until his death in 1833. While Randolph was ailing, he visited the Senate chamber and sat behind Clay. He asked to be raised up so he could “hear that voice again.” Knowing it would be the last time they would see each other, the old opponents shook hands.

In accordance with his wishes, Randolph was buried with his head turned to the west instead of the east — so that, he explained, he could keep an eternal eye on Henry Clay.

Though history hasn’t embraced him the way it has his counterpart, in his time, Robert Barraud Taylor was a renowned war hero, lawyer and orator.

After the duel, Taylor was expelled from the College. He continued his law studies under alumnus and future Chief Justice of the United States John Marshall, and in 1794 Taylor was admitted to the bar.

For the next three decades, Taylor was engaged in practically every important case heard in the Richmond area.
He defended Commodore James Barron for his involvement in the Chesapeake-Leopard Affair. He served as a jurist in the treason prosecution of former vice president and fellow dueler Aaron Burr. It was in that trial that Taylor encountered his old foe: Randolph served as the foreman of the grand jury.

Taylor also represented Norfolk County in the General Assembly and served in the same constitutional convention as Randolph. But his biggest role was played during the War of 1812 at the Battle of Craney Island.

Located at the mouth of the Elizabeth River, this 30-acre island and a string of gunboats were Norfolk and Portsmouth's first line of defense against the British. If the British pushed through, they would destroy these cities, as well as Gosport Navy Yard and the frigate USS Constellation. Such a loss would have been a severe blow for the Americans.

Taylor was in command of the American forces. Overwhelmingly outmanned and outgunned, he was battling against seasoned military and naval commanders from the Napoleonic Wars.

The Americans struck first on June 20, 1813, launching a heavy but ineffective fire against the British. Both sides spent the following day shuffling troops, and on June 22, the British attacked the fortification by land and sea with artillery and Congreve rockets.

As a result of a series of British blunders and effective American tactics, the invaders were repulsed. Of the estimated 2,650 British troops involved, approximately 200 were killed, wounded or captured. None of the roughly 750 Americans were harmed. After being turned back at the Elizabeth River, the British sacked Hampton on June 25 as a consolation prize.

Taylor was hailed a hero, and President James Madison offered him a commission as a brigadier general in the United States Army. Taylor declined, saying he preferred to return to civilian life. Upon his retirement from military service, citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth held a dinner in his honor.

The dinner and commission weren't the only honors bestowed upon Taylor. In 1824, the Marquis de Lafayette took a grand tour of the country he had helped liberate four decades earlier. Taylor was chosen to give the oration for Lafayette's revisiting of the American victory to which he had been so integral, the Battle of Yorktown.

While both men would go on to do great things, neither would forget the outcome of their duel at the College.

On that February day almost 220 years ago, both of their first shots missed each other. As they prepared for the next round, Randolph vowed to hit Taylor with his next shot. He made good on his promise, severely wounding his opponent.

The duel's conclusion is recounted in a February 1793 letter that was presumably sent from a member of the Greenhow family to Dr. Alexander Galt in London. “Taylor received a Bullet in the right side of the right Buttuck;” the missive reads. “It is supposedly lodged near the Rectum.”

After consultation with surgeons, it was deemed too dangerous to attempt to retrieve the bullet. Taylor carried the bullet for the rest of his life.

The two men reconciled immediately after the duel and became good friends. Randolph later wrote about Taylor to their William & Mary classmate, the future Virginia Gov. Littleton Tazewell LL.D. 1854.

“He is a noble-hearted fellow,” wrote Randolph, “and I love him.”
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Just off of Armistead Avenue, in a small, unfinished suite in the “Triangle Building,” something delicious is developing. The walls are wrapped with glossy tiles, glazed in rich candied color. The floors are being prepared for their glittering fruit-cake-colored covering, and a large inset in the ceiling is days away from being bathed in a river of liquid chocolate. In less than a month, the glass cases, typically meant for jewels and baubles, will be full of baked treasures and chocolate treats.

Marcel and Connie Warren Desaulniers ’75 are hard at work making sure that this decadent decor comes together in time for the April opening of their new café, MAD About Chocolate. “The facility should be as much of a treat for the eyes as the chocolate is for the palate,” says Connie. “We just want to make sure that they feel really good coming in, and that’s part of the experience.”

The pair is no stranger to pleasing the senses. In 1980, Marcel opened the prominent and still-popular Williamsburg restaurant, The Trellis. There, he developed Death by Chocolate, a chocolate cake that has spawned over a half-dozen dessert cookbooks written by the chef.

“It became the tail that wagged the dog,” says Marcel of the seven-layer confection. “People would make their reservations on whether or not we had it.” Marcel sold the Trellis in 2009.

Connie graduated from the College in 1975 with a fine art degree. After owning a successful marketing firm for decades, which included running the national campaign for Death By Chocolate, she turned her attention to the café.

By Megan M. Morrow
Chocolate in 1992, Connie left the business in 2005 to pursue painting full time.

“You know, since I’ve got [the art bug] in my blood, I would use it for therapy, so I would paint sometimes at night,” says Connie. “When things would get busy, I found I needed more therapy, so I would start painting more.”

The couple is out to bring chocolate therapy to Williamsburg with their new café. Although this is their first official venture into the food business as partners, they began with a mutual love of food.

When asked how they met, Connie responds, “Through William & Mary.” They laugh.

“I like to say that I met Connie over a can of pie filling,” Marcel says with a smile. The two met during Connie’s senior year at the College, when Marcel was a food broker. At his first food show he met Connie, who was there shopping for her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma.

“I thought that I had died and gone to heaven,” she says. It wasn’t until later that Marcel “picked up the phone” and gave Connie a ring. They will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary this year.

Through the years, the pair who met at the College has given much back. Connie has participated on the board of the Athletic Education Foundation, and is the only woman to have served as chairman. She has also held places on the Alumni Association Board and the Foundation Board. Her art is featured in the President’s Collection, most notably on the walls of the Wolf Law Library. She is currently on the Muscarelle Advisory Board. For her dedication to the College, Connie received the Alumni Service Award in 2000, and the Alumni Medallion in 2007.

Marcel and the Trellis have supported several fundraising efforts for the College, including the tercentenary celebration. He has also contributed to the Order of the White Jacket, an organization for students of the College who work in the food industry. In 2001, Marcel was given the status of honorary alumnu, marking the College’s gratitude for his generosity and service through the years.

The pair will also be utilizing the College to help energize their shop. “We’ve been hiring some college students, and [are] looking forward to getting more,” says Connie. They both agree that an energetic atmosphere will contribute significantly to the shop’s environment.

Marcel says of the appeal to a younger crowd, “I don’t want college kids coming in and saying ‘oh man, this looks like a scene from The Shining’.”

As for their roles in the new café?

“I never bake,” Connie states with a chuckle. “Marcel won’t let me.” She will instead serve as the general manager, taking care of customers and leaving the edible goods to Marcel and his team. Her art will also grace the walls that aren’t covered with visually delectable tile work.

MAD About Chocolate is a labor of love for the pair. Connie’s expertise and love of bright colors are undoubtedly behind the aesthetic of the café, while the name of the shop was drawn, in part, from Marcel’s initials. But Connie illustrates their desire to share more than just the delicious looks and the emotion-filled moniker.

“When people come to MAD About Chocolate, we want [them] to be happier and madder about chocolate than when they got there.”
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~ Timothy J. Sullivan ’66

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Wendy Webb-Robers

~ Associate Director of the Cohen Center

Education: B.A., Florida State University; M.Ed., William & Mary

Family: Husband, Joe Robers, retired Air Force, proprietor of his landscape care business

Where are you from?
All over. I was a military brat but I have lived in Virginia longer than anywhere else.

What is your typical day like in the Cohen Center?
I spend my day responding to emails, advising students, teaching workshops and planning new programming. My focus is on government and nonprofit career counseling.

When does the traditional student come to you?
The sooner the better. While it isn’t too late for students who wait until their senior year to come to us, career development is easier if you start your freshman or sophomore year.

What role does the Cohen Center play in alumni career services?
We offer job postings and networking resources, as well as individual advising and coaching on everything — from résumé writing to developing a job search plan.

What is your favorite part of your job?
I like empowering people; teaching them life skills and helping them find their direction.

How long have you worked at W&M?
I started as an hourly employee at Swem and came to the Career Center in 1998 as a graduate assistant.

What do you do in your spare time?
I grow my own food and work with stained glass.

Of what are you most proud?
My husband and I recently finished construction on a sustainable passive-solar straw-bale home that is partially solar powered. It took us seven years and we’re still married! Now I have lots of windows for future stained-glass projects. It feels good to not worry about electricity outages and rising fuel costs.

Interview by Mitch Vander Vorst