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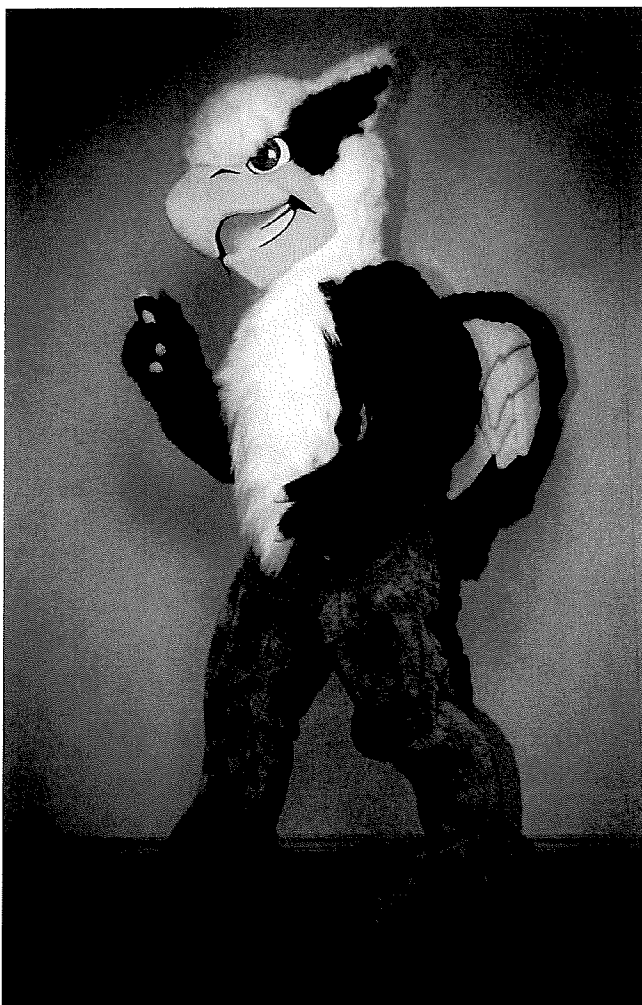
## EDUCATION

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### William and Mary picks griffin as new mascot

Lauren King  
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The College of William and Marv announced the griffin would be its new mascot. (Photo courtesv of The



### WILLIAMSBURG

The College of William and Mary will now be represented by a griffin, according to the school's Twitter feed.

The effort to name a new mascot had come down to a pug, griffin, phoenix, wren and kir and queen. Amid much fanfare the new griffin mascot joined President Taylor Reveley, cheerleaders, pep band members and about 500 people at William and Mary Hall on Tue according to the college's Facebook page.

A mythical creature that symbolizes courage and leadership, a griffin has the body of a li the king of beasts - and the head of an eagle - the king of birds.

William and Mary began searching for a mascot after the NCAA ruled that the university green and gold feather logo could be offensive to Native Americans.

For decades the college was known as the Indians. The school changed its nickname to T in the 1980s.

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In 2006 the NCAA ruled the feathers on the school logo had to go. They could be consider offensive. William and Mary could keep its nickname, though.

Chowan University in Murfreesboro, N.C. also agreed to drop its American Indian nickna and mascot to comply with the 2005 NCAA ruling that bans hostile and abusive racial, etl and national origin mascots, nicknames or imagery at NCAA tournaments. They chose th "Hawks" in May 2006.

Chowan had used the nickname "Braves" since the late 1940s; it was derived from the retribes, which were the principal inhabitants when the Murfreesboro area was settled by Colonists in the 16th and 17th centuries, according to the school's Web site.

Nearby tribes include Chowan, Meherrin, Nottaway and Tuscarora, and the counties, riv towns and college names all reflect the heritage.

The school's new logos were very similar to the old Braves logo, a blue "C" with a feather hanging off one side.



Lauren King

Lauren King is an digital editor and reporter. She has worked for The Pilot since 2003.

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