

>> TOUCHDOWN:

Video of football press conference, slideshow of the game at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org).

FOLLOWING THE BAND:

MRDs inspire many students to come to JMU, [page 3](#)



Sunny ■ 72°/ 48°  
chance of precipitation: 0%

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Vol. 91, No. 17  
Monday, October 22, 2012

# Local registration scandal goes national

RNC employee trashes 8 voter forms, sparking talk about election fraud

By **ERIC GRAVES**  
*The Breeze*

Harrisonburg gained national attention this week after a man allegedly committed voter registration fraud.

Colin Small, a Republican voter registration contractor, was arrested for allegedly throwing away a trash bag filled with eight completed voter registration forms in Harrisonburg on Oct. 15, the deadline for voter registration.

*U.S. News and World Report* spoke with a source close to Small, who said he threw the forms away because he missed the deadline to turn them in and didn't want to get in trouble with his job.

The 23-year-old Pennsylvania native faces four counts of destruction of voter registration applications, eight felony counts of disclosure of voter registration information and one count of obstruction of justice for lying about his age.

Small was hired by the Republican National Committee to help register voters. He was employed with PinPoint, an Arizona-based staffing company. He's no longer employed there.

This incident has sparked national conversation about voter fraud. Tim Kaine and George Allen, Virginian candidates for the U.S. Senate, have kept a close eye on this issue, according to *The Washington Post*. Kaine criticized the State Board of Elections for not pushing for an investigation.

The Democratic Party of Virginia called on Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli for an investigation into this case to see whether this was an isolated issue. But there are other types of voter fraud that could also happen.

According to vice-chairman of the Harrisonburg electoral board, Jim Gilchrist, the most common voter fraud is registering in two different states at the same time. This can be done by skipping over a section of the application where it asks about previous voter registration history. It's possible to catch someone registering to vote twice in the same state, but there's no way to check nationwide, he said.

Robert Roberts, a political science professor, thinks the chances of voter fraud are very low in America.

"Voter fraud in the United States is virtually nonexistent," Roberts said. "There is no box stuffing or changing votes on the ballots. It simply does not happen. There may be chances of fraud if someone was to vote in two separate places, but almost all of that is caught."

Roberts said there's the possibility of voter fraud related to newer electronic ballots, but he explained that it would take a great deal of knowledge and luck from a skilled hacker to make a difference.

Freshman political science major Harry Zahn said the incident wouldn't affect his vote one way or another.

"I really don't think that the actions of this one man is going to sway me to one side or the other on the GOP," Zahn said. "He was contracted by the

see **FRAUD**, page 6

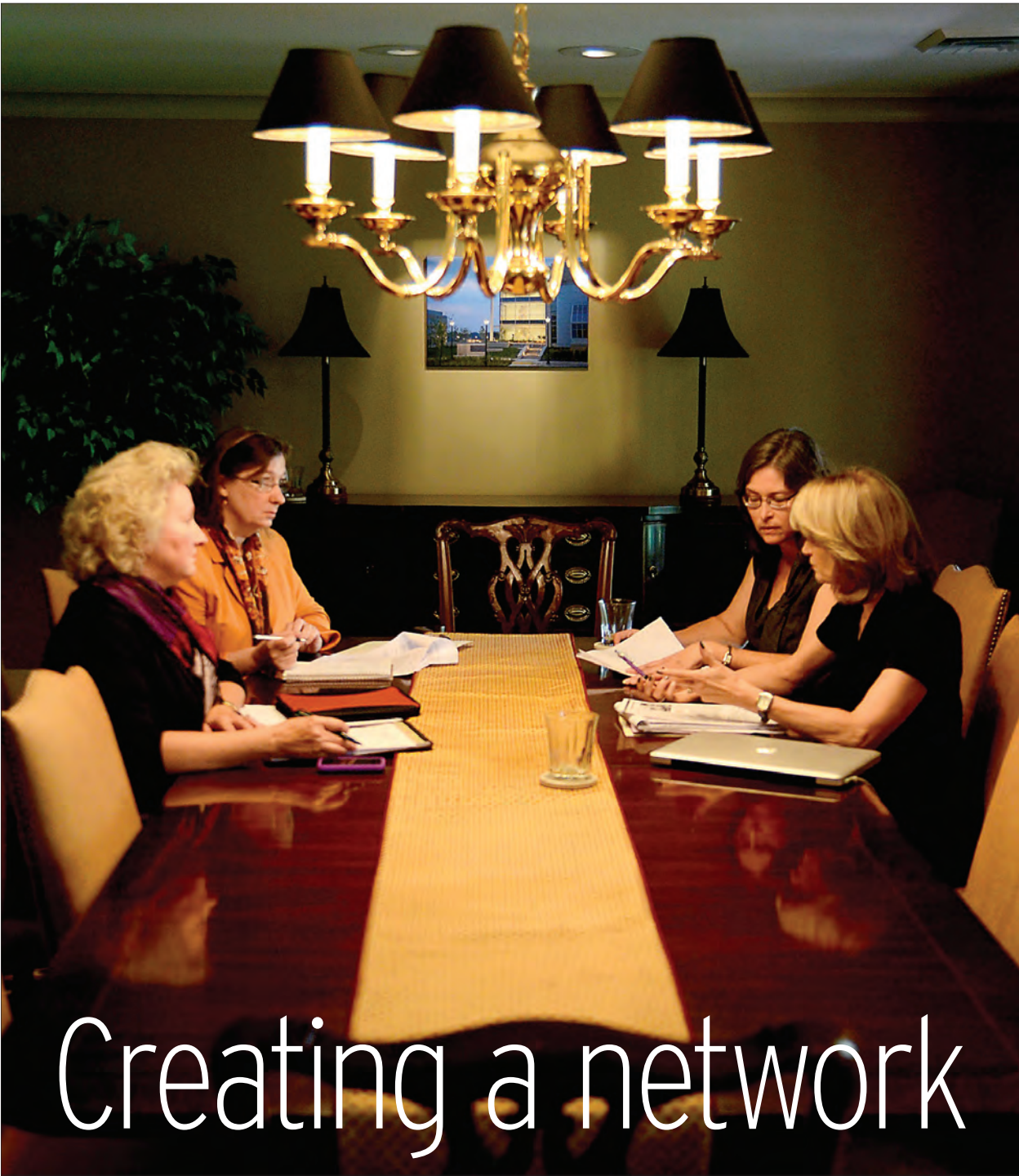
## 10/22 INSIDE

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BECKY SULLIVAN / THE BREEZE

From bottom left: Mary Ann Alger, Joyce Krech, Carol Hamilton and Mary Lou Bourne met on Wednesday to discuss business plans.

## President Alger's wife and JMU business centers join forces to create database of professional resources for student and local entrepreneurs

By **ALISON PARKER**  
*The Breeze*

Gov. Bob McDonnell declared 2012 the year of the entrepreneur, and four women are working to make that happen at JMU.

Mary Ann Alger, Joyce Krech, Carol Hamilton and Mary Lou Bourne are developing an easier way for students and the community to start a business by creating a database with all the professional experts' contacts in one location.

This resource could be helpful to JMU and the community, especially for those who may not have a strong background in business.

"We know a lot of resources between the four of us," said Krech, director of the Shenandoah Valley Small Business Development Center. "Putting it all together, we'll know exactly where to direct business owners and entrepreneurs."

Krech, Hamilton and Bourne have worked to form a network among their offices since 2007. They're now meeting every two weeks to continue building this database with more contacts in different professions.

They have about 20 to 30 experts on the spreadsheet and are hoping to gain more interest in their program as the year progresses.

Alger, President Jon Alger's wife, has worked across the U.S. in banking, business ownership and enterprise, debt contracting and evaluations in Latin America and the Caribbean. She's had her own consulting practices and worked for other consulting firms.

Krech works with the Shenandoah Valley Small Business

Development Center, a university grant-funded program based at JMU. She serves many across the Shenandoah Valley who are either looking to start a business, improve their existing business or grow as business leaders.

Krech's office meets with clients one on one to hold confidential consultations for free. She's also planning the "Make Art Your Business" seminar.

"We want [artists] to think of what they love to do as a business, not just as a hobby," Krech said. "So everything from pricing to marketing their work — it's very different from just fulfilling a passion for art. We want to turn it into a passion for business."

Hamilton is a College of Business professor and director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at JMU. She works directly with any students and faculty to help them commercialize their ideas.

Bourne works in the Office of Technology Transfer, which helps people better market their skills, knowledge and technology across the university and Valley area. She specializes in educating JMU and the community about patent searches, trademarks and intellectual property.

Bourne has helped people research their ideas to see if they've already been done and how to patent them. The best sign of a successful product or company is when the creator has a lot of knowledge about the target subject, she said.

For example, Jacob Mayiani, a graduate ISAT student, worked with a research team to create a board game to help educate people about the famine and drought in Kenya.

see **NETWORK**, page 6

# Spiders entwine Dukes 35-29

After allowing 19 unanswered points, JMU rallies in fourth quarter but still comes up short

By **WAYNE EPPS JR.**  
*The Breeze*

With sloppy play on defense and ineffective play for most of the game on offense, the Dukes suffered a 35-29 loss at the University of Richmond on Saturday.

Starting quarterback redshirt junior Justin Thorpe was benched in the third quarter in favor of freshman Michael Birdsong as the Dukes struggled to score. JMU committed 11 penalties for 98 yards for the game, and Thorpe threw two interceptions that both led to scores in the second quarter.

The defense also allowed a career-high 144 yards receiving to Richmond redshirt sophomore wide receiver Stephen Barnette.

"I thought defensively we were totally atrocious," said head coach Mickey Matthews. "We never did play a lick of defense the whole game. We had some kids play their worst defensive games of their careers."

Mistakes came back to bite the Dukes as Thorpe's interceptions helped unranked Richmond jump out to a 15-10

lead in the second quarter, which they never relinquished.

Richmond started new quarterback redshirt sophomore Michael Strauss, a transfer from the University of Virginia. He took the reins after former starter redshirt senior John Laub suffered a broken ankle against the University of New Hampshire on Oct. 13.

Strauss completed 27 of his 43 pass attempts for 271 yards and four touchdowns. JMU's defense consistently left Richmond receivers open. The four touchdowns were the most by a Richmond quarterback since 2009.

In addition to the 303 total passing yards allowed, the Dukes allowed senior fullback Kendall Gaskins to rush for a career-high 106 yards and a touchdown.

Eight of the team's penalties were committed on defense.

"We just didn't execute," said redshirt junior linebacker Stephen Robertson, "and we just didn't play hard first half and we had to play catch-up the whole game and we can't do that."

The team also struggled on offense.

see **LOSS**, page 7



BECKY SULLIVAN / THE BREEZE

Redshirt senior free safety Ryan Smith returns a kick during Saturday's game at Richmond. The Dukes lost 35-29 after a failed comeback attempt.





Today  
sunny  
72°/47°



Tuesday  
partly cloudy  
78°/51°



Wednesday  
sunny  
78°/49°



Thursday  
sunny  
77°/50°

Monday, October 22, 2012

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## The Breeze

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### MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student, faculty and staff readership by reporting news involving the campus and local community. The Breeze strives to be impartial and fair in its reporting and firmly believes in First Amendment rights.

Published Monday and Thursday mornings, The Breeze is distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Torie Foster, editor.

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# horoscopes



### IF YOU WERE BORN TODAY:

Change may be more the norm than the exception at work (perhaps industry-wide), although your bottom line continues to grow this year. Step into leadership when the opportunity presents. Get involved with causes that inspire.



### LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Stand firm for what you know is right.

Set long-term goals with your sweetheart. Be gracious (especially when right).



### SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Continue to question long-held

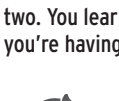
plans, and find what's needed at home. Your imagination can take you farther. Friends help you solve philosophical problems.



### SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Work may interfere with play, or vice versa. See how to combine the two. You learn and earn more when you're having fun.



### CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You're about to find out more than you

wanted to know. Your limits are being tested, but you can handle everything coming at you. Just prioritize the most important tasks.



### AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Don't give up. There's always

more to it than meets the eye. Your undivided attention helps clear the blockage.



### PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)

New understanding comes in time to

make changes for the better. Don't get stuck in an upset ... there's no cheese down that tunnel.



### ARIES

(March 21-April 19)

Launch a new project soon. Your

work is inspired. Dream big and reinvent your goals. Friends assist you in clarifying an issue. Listen for how to finance it.



### TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)

A formidable

barrier lies ahead. Proceed with caution. It's probably worth going for it (even if it requires several attempts to get it right).



### GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)

Social expenses are higher than

expected. Your imagination compensates for any shortcomings. You've got love in great abundance.



### CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

Boost your relationship

with playfulness. You can have fun without spending much. Get involved with your list of fascinating things to learn about.



### LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

Reduce the chance of error

by decreasing distractions. Spend more time with your partner the next few days.



### VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Continue to decrease stress by

crossing stuff off your personal to-do list (start with things you'll never do anyway).

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Capt. Kirk's Asian lieutenant  
7 Big name in elevators  
11 Eng. majors' degrees  
14 Aid from a road travel org.  
15 Calamine mineral  
16 Make a decision  
17 Versatile, as clothes outfits  
19 N.Y. engineering sch.  
20 Stein filler  
21 Hawkeye State  
22 Tom of "The Seven Year Itch"  
24 Auto title data  
27 Represent as identical  
30 Wine: Pref.  
31 Actress Rene  
32 Way in or out  
35 Iraq War concern: Abbr.  
38 Toon mouse couple  
42 \_\_\_ dye: chemical colorant  
43 High-pitched woodwind  
44 Breakfast corners  
45 Old OTC watchdog  
48 Borneo sultanate  
49 All one's strength  
54 Skylit rooms  
55 Wedding cake layer  
56 Dean's list no.  
59 Highland refusal  
60 Gentle  
64 Chicago transports  
65 End of a threat  
66 Like many rumors  
67 Baseball's Cobb et al.  
68 Small complaints that are "picked"  
69 Colorful candy purchase, or what 17-, 24-, 38-, 49- and 60-Across all are

By David Steinberg

10/22/12

- 4 Actress Thurman  
5 PC-to-PC system  
6 "Rabbit at Rest" author  
7 Conductor Seiji  
8 Giant  
9 Business name abbr.  
10 Connive  
11 Approached rapidly  
12 iLife producer  
13 Not moving a muscle  
18 "The Simpsons" bartender  
23 Came out ahead  
24 Face hider  
25 Stub \_\_\_  
26 College housing  
27 Humorist Bombeck  
28 Quick classroom test  
29 Amer. lawmaking group  
32 Gently applied amount  
33 Yoko from Tokyo  
34 Dedicatory poem  
36 Voice amplifier  
37 Arnaz who played Ricky  
39 Luke Skywalker's mentor

### DOWN

- 1 Papa's mate  
2 Skateboard park fixture  
3 \_\_\_Coburg: former German duchy  
4 Cross inscription  
41 Subject of a sentence, typically  
46 Yellowfin tuna  
47 Pollen-producing flower part  
48 Showman who teamed with Bailey  
49 Painter Édouard  
50 Peninsular Mediterranean country  
51 H-bomb trial, e.g.  
52 Flood stoppers  
53 \_\_\_ culpa  
56 Encircle  
57 Prune, before drying  
58 Fruity beverages  
61 New Haven Ivy Leaguer  
62 Genetic material  
63 Rainier, e.g.: Abbr.

### Thursday's puzzle solved

N	F	L	S	I	S	A	L	L	U	R	E	S
I	R	A	O	C	H	O	A	O	Z	A	R	K
G	A	S	C	H	U	R	C	H	A	I	S	L
H	T	T	P	S	T	E	E	D	H	E	W	
S	I	R	C	H	A	R	L	E	S			
S	Q	U	E	A	L			P	R	O	P	E
C	U	P		V	A	M	P	S		U	R	S
R	E	P	A	I	R	C	H	E	C	K	L	I
U	S	E	D		S	I	E	N	A		V	E
M	O	R	A	L	S		B	Y	H	A	N	D
M	E	L		M	O	H	A	I	R	C	O	A
S	W	I	V	E	L	C	H	A	I	R		E
R	E	P	E	L		R	A	N	D	D		Y
P	R	O	X	Y		A	T	S	E	A		E

## NEWS & WORLD

## Ethanol blending decision due

McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration must decide soon if it will temporarily lift requirements to blend ethanol into the nation's gasoline supply. The issue has been largely dormant on the campaign trail, but it's critical to the success or failure of the next generation of biofuel plants under construction today that won't rely on corn to make fuel.

A public comment period ended in early October, and now the administration must decide by Nov. 13 whether or not to temporarily suspend the Renewable Fuel Standard, created in 2005 and modified in 2007 to help the ethanol industry get off the ground by requiring its use in gasoline.

Ethanol is required to be blended into gasoline to help keep pollution down, and it has the benefit of lowering dependence on crude oil, about half of it imported and the other half drilled domestically.

## \$2 million prize offered for cure to blindness

The Baltimore Sun

BALTIMORE — Singer Art Garfunkel, a real estate magnate and an investor are putting \$2 million in gold bullion on the line to inspire researchers to cure blindness by 2020, establishing through Johns Hopkins Medicine one of the world's largest prizes for a scientific advancement.

The men intend for the prize to trigger research into the variety of diseases that cause blindness — 80 percent of which are preventable — in 39 million people around the world.

Dr. Peter McDonnell, director and ophthalmology professor at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins, said that the time between this week's announcement and the day the prize will be awarded is exactly the same period, 2,978 days, from President John F. Kennedy's challenge to put a man on the moon and Neil Armstrong's first steps.

## Cubans lack interest in one party election

Miami Herald

MIAMI — Cuban dissident Julio Aleaga was granted one minute to tell his neighborhood council why he wanted to be a candidate in the elections Sunday, the first of several votes leading up to the expected re-election of Raul Castro around February.

Another candidate, Lt. Col. Juan Carlos Zayas of the Interior Ministry, did not show up for the Sept. 23 gathering, Aleaga said. But Zayas won the nomination with 40 out of the 60 votes. The votes against Zayas were not even counted.

Havana portrays the electoral system as a grassroots democracy, although there's only one legal party, the Communist Party, no campaigning is allowed, no dissident has ever been accepted as a candidate and no national lawmaker has ever cast a no vote.

But Cubans say there's far more interest in the U.S.

presidential election than on the predictable vote Sunday, and that the turnout at the neighborhood council that selected the first round of candidates averaged one-third of the eligible participants.

"I don't see the most minimal interest in the election here because people know that's not going to change anything," said Mario Felix Lleonart, a protestant pastor in the central province of Santa Clara who regularly criticizes the government.

Highlighting the depth of the disaffection, a group of "democratic socialists" who back the government on many issues has even urged voters to draw a "D" on their ballots, to demand direct votes for president and acceptance of international human rights pacts.

Those elected to municipal councils have little power to change anything, declared one of the group's leading members, Pedro Campos, a well-known Communist Party member, historian and former diplomat.

More than 90 percent of the island's eight million voters are expected to choose Sunday from the 30,000 candidates for the 168 municipal councils.

## Celebration for First Native American saint

McClatchy Newspapers

ROME — The Roman Catholic Church began final preparations last week for what will be a watershed event in the church's relationship with Native American cultures, the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha, a Mohawk Indian who lived in the 17th century, who on Sunday will become the church's first Native American saint.

More than 700 Native Americans are expected to take part in the ceremony in St. Peter's Square honoring the woman who is known as the Lily of the Mohawks. A choir singing an Indian hymn will be among the participants. At a Mass on Monday inside St. Peter's Basilica, Native Americans will conduct a "smudge" ceremony by burning sage, according to an American church official.

Kateri Tekakwitha was born in 1656 to an Algonquin mother and a Mohawk father in New York. Tekakwitha was baptized at 20. After being rejected by her family, she moved to a Jesuit mission near Montreal, where she taught children until her death four years later.

# We Dig the Dukes!

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ASHLEY GRISHAM / THE BREEZE

The Glen Allen High School marching band, from Richmond, performs in Bridgeforth Stadium during 35th annual the Parade of Champions on Saturday.

### Marching band competition, MRDs performance motivates students to attend JMU

By IJ CHAN  
The Breeze

Some students come to JMU for academics, a few for the food. But others come for the marching band.

On Saturday, high school band students piled into Bridgeforth Stadium, filling almost half of it for the annual Parade of Champions. The parade is one way JMU recruits more students to come to the university and to join the Marching Royal Dukes.

JMU and the MRDs hosted the 35th annual high school marching band competition, a celebration of music education and the marching arts.

Stephanie Brownell, a senior health sciences major and member of the MRDs, said the event motivates students to come to JMU. She said many of her fellow MRD's came to POC when they were in high school.

"It makes people want to come," Brownell said. "Everyone gets excited about us, the MRDs are a pretty big deal in [the] marching band world."

The competition showcased 46 high

school marching bands from around Virginia. Brownell said the participating bands were divided into four different groups, according to size. The groups were judged on overall visual, music and general performance.

Trophies and special awards for best percussion, color guard, visual performance, music performance and general effect were given in each category.

Bands started arriving at 5:30 a.m. and were here until around 11:00 p.m. The MRDs performed twice during the day.

Laura Maser, a senior at Stonewall Jackson High School in Manassas, said watching the MRDs made her want to come to JMU.

"It was amazing," Maser said. "It's why JMU is my No. 1 school choice."

Maser's high school band director, Kevin Engdahl, a 2011 JMU alum, said he felt the same way when he came to POC in high school and now he brings his band to POC.

Bridgeforth "is a huge push for them to work hard," Engdahl said. "Hearing the MRDs play and the sound they make — it's amazing. I came to POC in high school, and it's what made me want to come here."

Many students also use POC as an opportunity to reunite with old friends and see how their high school is doing.

Ashley Riles, a sophomore social work major and clarinet player in the MRDs, said that this year's POC was particularly special for her because her high school, Chancellor High School from Fredericksburg, Va., attended POC this year.

"I got to sit in the front of the field and watch them perform their show — it was a huge difference for me like, I was with my [old] band this time," Riles said.

Fellow MRD Hollis Setzer, a sophomore social work major, never attended the POC in high school, but remembers seeing the MRDs perform during a college tour. That performance made her want to come to JMU.

"One of the days that I came to take a tour when I was a junior in high school, POC was actually going on," Setzer said. "Luckily I was just in time to see the MRDs perform, and I was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is awesome, I have to come here.'"

see **BAND**, page 6

### IN BRIEF

JMU

#### Athletics takes part in CAA Blood Challenge

JMU Athletics is holding its 11th annual blood drive.

This event has become one of the Colonial Athletic Associations biggest public service projects. All CAA institutions designates a day in the fall to conduct the campus-wide blood drive.

This year, JMU's event will take place on Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Warren.

Local blood service centers assist the CAA in keeping track of the number of people who donate and based on those numbers, the CAA determines a winner and presents a trophy to that institution.

So far, the CAA Blood Challenge has collected 32,106 units of blood, which has helped to save 96,318 lives.

Students interested in donating blood can sign up at [www.vadonor.com](http://www.vadonor.com)

#### Alger to continue listening tour in D.C.

President Jon Alger will be traveling to Washington, D.C. as part of his listening tour.

The event will be help in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on Oct. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Alumni Associations is hosting the event and inviting people to participate by sharing why Madison matters to them with Alger.

For more information about this event and Alger's listening tour, visit <http://www.jmu.edu/whymadison>.

CHARLOTTESVILLE

#### Springsteen to rally for Obama

Bruce Springsteen will perform in Charlottesville this week to rally Obama supporters.

At just 15 days shy of the election, Bruce Springsteen will join volunteers for an event at the nTelos Wireless Pavilion tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Tickets are free and available first come, first serve. Anyone who wants to attend can pick up tickets at either of the two Obama campaign offices in Charlottesville.

90  
years of history

### Oldest dorm on campus gets a facelift

Every Monday, *The Breeze* will feature top stories from previous issues to celebrate its 90th anniversary this year.  
Today's feature is from an article in the Sept. 12, 1947, issue.

During the summer months a great many long-awaited improvements were made on the Madison campus. Dr. Samuel P. Duke, president, has announced that approximately \$100,000 was spent on carrying out the building and improvement program.

#### Jackson completely remodeled

Foremost among college projects was the complete remodeling of Jackson, the oldest campus dormitory which was constructed about 1913. Old students will recall that Jackson was composed of big large-closeted single rooms. By making the closets smaller and the rooms less deep, these rooms were converted into two-room, bath-connected suites. Each of the Jackson rooms is painted a different shade, while new wood floors have been laid. Permanent steel and concrete fireproof fire escapes were constructed on each end of the building, and tiles were laid on the corridors. Old and new students alike will note with interest that the work now being completed on Jackson is only the initial step toward the bigger and better future Madison College.

#### Fireproof two dorms

In addition to the Jackson renovation, many changes have been made in both Ashby and Spotswood dormitories. Particularly important is the construction of concrete and steel stairways to further fireproof the buildings. Fire escapes at either end of the buildings were also constructed, and general painting was done. The college authorities, it was

announced, hope to completely remodel Ashby and Sportswood next summer.

Several thousand dollars was spent in improvement of the side-walks criss-crossing the campus, while a similar sum was spent in general painting of the buildings. Students will be delighted with the improvements in the auditorium where \$5,000 was spent to cover the seats with new covers.



Betsy Payne, an entering freshman from Harrisonburg, Virginia, is shown being greeted in traditional Madison fashion by white-garbed Mary Rudasill, who is a member of the YWCS welcoming committee for new students.



KATIE GONG / THE BREEZE

### 207 middle school students participate in JMU Job Shadow Day

Officer John Hooke, of the JMU Public Safety Office, shows Gabe Avez, an eighth-grader from Thomas Harrison Middle School, an M4A3 rifle as part of the annual Job Shadow Day on Friday. The students were told how the officers clean and maintain the guns. The officers also talked about the responsibility that comes with the guns, saying they are held accountable for every bullet fired.

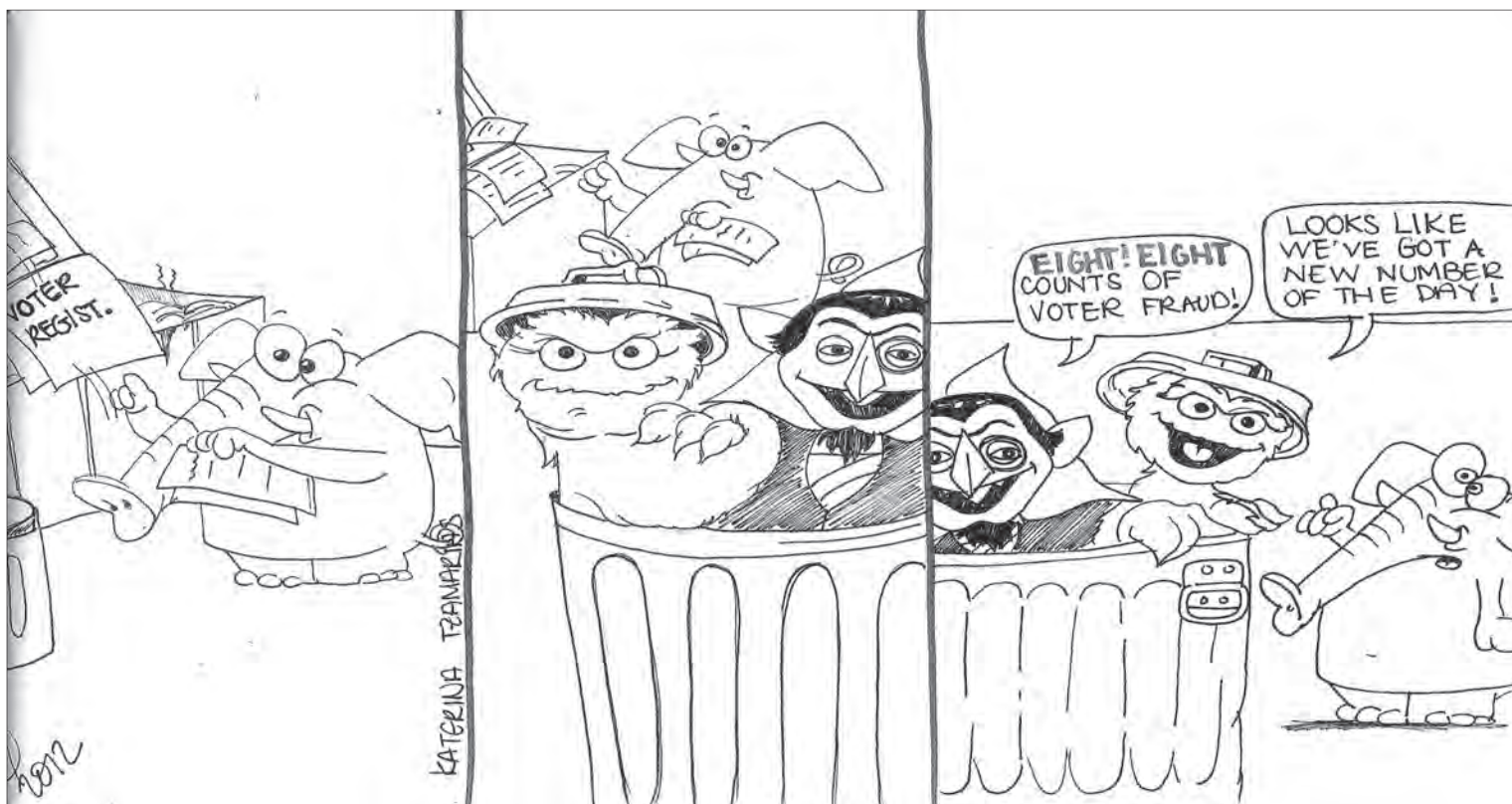
207 students from 10 Rockingham County, Harrisonburg City and private middle schools came to campus to shadow JMU employees in the student's chosen career field. The 35 departments involved in the shadowing day included the Arboretum, Biology, Facilities Management and Telecommunications.

About 15 middle school students toured the Public Safety Office and learned what the JMU police officers do on a daily basis. They started with a presentation on what each officer's job entails, then gave students advice on subjects ranging from online safety to alcohol education.

After the discussion, students were taken to the Armory where they got to hold a Glock 22 and a M4A3 rifle.

"My favorite part was the armory because I like hunting and learning about guns," said Jacob Merica, an eighth-grader from Elkton Middle school.





WES JONES | guest columnist

## Newsweek goes digital; print lovers suffer

*As more publications move to the Web, paperback enthusiasts hope it won't become a trend*

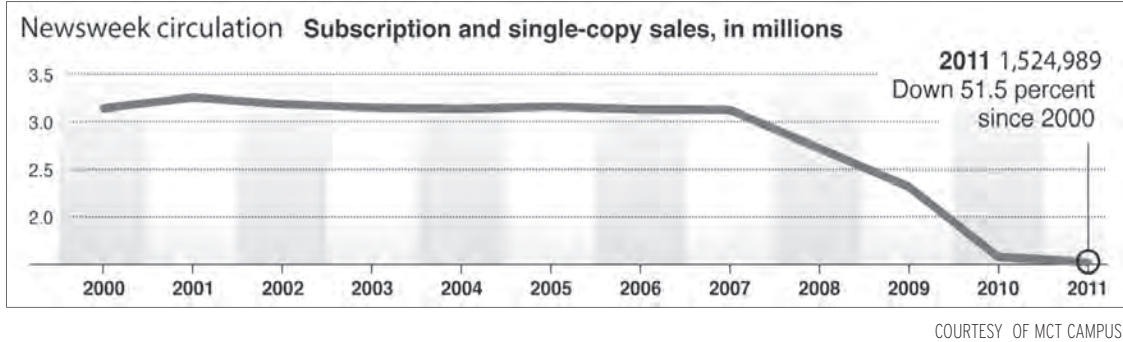
I've never read Newsweek. In fact, the only time I've ever seen an issue was while waiting in the doctor's office and still I refrained from reading it. To be honest, I'm more of a *Time* kind of guy.

Nonetheless, I was saddened when Newsweek announced Thursday that it will cancel its print edition at the year's end. It plans on transitioning to an all-digital platform. The announcement raises many questions and concerns. Will this start a trend? What does this move say about the current standing of the print world?

Having all of your reading material located on one device may be convenient, but think about how synonymous 'convenient' and 'lazy' are in this context.

According to the Pew Research Center, Newsweek's circulation has been steadily declining since 2008. The move seems more like a last attempt at survival than a proactive move in a growing digital era.

But why is digital media overshadowing its print counterpart? The obvious answer is that we crave more news at a faster rate (call me crazy, but reading on a screen, whether it's a 4-inch smartphone or a 9-inch tablet just



Since 2007, Newsweek's circulation has declined drastically – by almost 2 million subscribers.

doesn't have the same feeling as reading a magazine).

Personally, I prefer to have something concrete in my hands; I want to turn a page, not swipe my finger. How am I supposed to thumb through a magazine if it's on my phone?

I don't understand the fascination with reading on a screen. What's wrong with reading a book? Surely your wrists can handle the weight. Yes, having a tablet allows you to store all of your books on one device, but that's so selfish. How can you share a good book with a friend? There's something exclusive about passing a book from person to person, sharing the experience of reading it.

Furthermore, if all of your books are digital, you can't line them up on a shelf and show off your collection. I have loads of books on my shelf that I will probably never read, but that doesn't matter as much as showcasing the amount that I have.

There's some strange connection I get with a book that can't be replicated with a digital device. With all of these e-books and e-magazines, you can't annotate or have a classic coffee spill on one of the pages. If we never had printed books, then Harry Potter would have failed potions class and never known about the Half-Blood Prince.

Having all of your reading material located on one device may be convenient, but think about how synonymous 'convenient' and 'lazy' are in this context.

It's convenient to download the latest book or newest edition of a magazine from your bed, but it takes away from the experience of going to a bookstore and browsing all that it has to offer.

I love going to Barnes and Noble, or sometimes even used-book stores. The smell of books, new or old, is intoxicating. It's mesmerizing sifting through books at the used-book stores, wondering who the previous owner or owners were.

On top of that, everything's always dirt-cheap.

The bottom line is that digital devices don't provide the same enjoyment as reading something in print. It's almost as if the screen acts as barrier blocking the reader from feeling a personal connection with whatever they are reading.

Print shouldn't have to die out. It's sad enough that Newsweek, which has lasted nearly 80 years, has to end its print publications. It's adapting to survive, and while noble, it's an adaptation that shouldn't be necessary in the first place.

It's not a very happy time for the print world. Hopefully, the Newsweek transition does not become a trend for other magazines to follow. If others, such as *Sports Illustrated*, follow suit, and I can't get a physical copy of the swimsuit edition, I'll lose my mind.

Wes Jones is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Wes at [joneswb@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:joneswb@dukes.jmu.edu).

CAROLINE KELLY

guest columnist

## New genre unnecessary

*Despite 'new adult' book label, all readers should be able to enjoy them*

With the popularity of "Harry Potter," "Twilight" and "The Hunger Games" among adults, publishers have recognized that they have a new potential demographic.

As a result, a new category of literature has come into existence: new-adult fiction. Whether it's the vivid, magical world of Hogwarts or the fast-paced dystopia of Panem, books written for teens grab teens and adults alike.

This new genre will take advantage of that with "all the heartfelt crises of identity that affect adolescent characters, only with real-world settings and slightly more adult insight and adult situations," Emily Witt claimed in her Sept. 30 *New York Magazine* article. So, what does your humble writer, an English major and book lover think about all this? This. Is. Stupid.

This phenomenon is nothing new. Consider classics like "The Outsiders" or "The Giver." Or if you prefer fantasy, authors Tamora Pierce and Diana Wynne Jones have plenty of avid adult readers. Why do we suddenly have to pretend this is new and shocking and make up a special category of literature for it? To soothe the fragile egos of adults who don't want to admit that -gasp!- they're reading a book for young people. I've got news for you: no one actually cares.

Let's consider what actually drew people to these books. Was it the "heartfelt crises of identity?" Or is it perhaps the immersive and detailed world they built for the reader, the carefully crafted settings, the realistically flawed characters and the intricate sweeping plots?

No, certainly it was the teen drama and romances, no 'real world' settings or adult situations there.

Why is this such a big deal to people? Even the incredibly popular Harry Potter series, possibly the book that any adult can read on the subway with no shame, came out with a special edition of the series with less colorful, more "mature" covers just for people who wanted to look like they weren't reading it. Apparently there's a nebulous crowd of book police just waiting to catch and publicly shame any adult they see reading a book marketed for teens.

Here's the thing, while some young adult fiction certainly focuses on decidedly teenage topics, plenty of them focus on more mature themes. The only major difference is often the age of the protagonist.

Maybe you liked the movies "Coraline" and "Stardust"? Both based on young adult fiction and both written by bestselling author Neil Gaiman who has written wildly popular novels for grown-ups as well. Whether a book is good depends on the author, not the category.

In the end, a good book should make you laugh, cry, feel and walk away wanting to talk about what you found in it. If you're enjoying a book, then you should never have to feel ashamed or silly about it. (Yes, that even goes for you Twilight readers.)

People complain that our society doesn't read enough. Now, when people start reading, they're complaining that we're not reading the right books. Don't listen to them.

Enough with inventing new categories of literature to sell the exact same thing and diminishing the work of the many excellent young adult fiction writers. Read whatever you like and be proud of it. And if the book police show up with horrified gasps and pointed fingers, just look them in the eye and say "Yeah, so?"

Caroline Kelly is a senior English major. Contact Caroline at [kellyce@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:kellyce@dukes.jmu.edu).

## DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth. Submit Darts & Pats at [breezejmu.org](mailto:breezejmu.org)

A "gee-thanks" dart to the person who weaved their bike lock through my brake cables, locking my bike to theirs.

From a student who doesn't want to ride tandem with you and was forced to leave his bike behind.

A "you're-a-true-Duke" pat to the guy in line ahead of me who covered someone's meal when their JACard wouldn't work.

From a proud sophomore who was reminded why she chose JMU as her second home.

A "thanks-for-sharing-your-time-but-more-importantly-your-smile" pat to the adorable junior who spent his afternoon teaching me Stats.

From a grateful sophomore who owes you a huge hug and a Starbucks gift card.

A "one-down" pat to *The Breeze* for publishing this.

From Becca's senior bucket list.

A "who-knew" pat to my boyfriend for having one year together and still going strong.

From that little freshman girl you met three years ago who loves you more anything and had no idea she could be so lucky-in-love.

A "big-what-the-stuff" dart to the weight lifter with a tattoo in D-Hall spitting his chewing tobacco into cups.

From the straight-edge who saw you.

A "thanks-for-not-minding-your-own-beeswax" pat to the boy in the white Acura who missed his class to get me to RMH

when I got swarmed by bees.

From a girl who is deathly allergic and was in anaphylactic shock so she didn't get a chance to say thank you.

A "way-to-rupture-my-eardrum!" dart to the loud-mouthed girl in my 9:30 class.

From a sleepless senior who was trying to get a little extra studying in before the exam and thinks it's far too early in the morning for your ear-splitting volume.

A "hear-the-wedding-bells" pat to the 2010 alumna and her fiancé who will be celebrating their bachelor(ette) weekend at JMU's Homecoming.

From a bridesmaid who is ready to get the party started with our fellow Dukes and new friends.

A "hey-there" pat to the guy in the Jackson study lounge who threw cute notes to me from across the room.

From a fellow student who appreciated the gesture, but was too shy to give you her number.

A "you're-amazing-and-we're-so-excited-that-you've-started-grad-school" pat to everyone's favorite native Texan.

From your biggest supporter who is proud of you and glad you chose JMU to continue your studies.

A "thanks-for-your-dedication" pat to President Jon Alger for not leaving his office until 6:30 Thursday night.

From a grad student who's appreciative of everything you've already done for our university.

An "I-just-wish-you-weren't-a-liar" dart to Chanello's for promising me a free pizza after screwing up my order and then reneging when I tried to call it in.

From an annoyed and still hungry student.

An "I-had-the-time-of-my-life" pat to my best friend for helping me practice an important dance.

From an appreciative girl who thinks you could be my Patrick Swazey any time.

## Editorial Policies

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Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

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## FRAUD | Small released on bond, expected to appear in court

from front

GOP and I mean if he just went rogue then it just seems like it could be a guy who may have let his passion get to him."

Gilchrist said the indirect relationship between Small and the GOP is not indicative of anything. He thinks this incident isn't a wide-spread practice, as this is the first instance of voter fraud that has surfaced this year.

"The ballots for Virginia have no party identification," Roberts said. "The only way that someone could have identified which party someone supported would be if they pulled the voter's information off of the form and

called them up to ask."

Security for voter's identities, votes and registration forms is a top priority to Gilchrist.

"It's a tight security system," Gilchrist said. "We account for each ballot that is received at a polling place. There's a paper-trail and the machines we use are tested and kept very secure. The risk is low but the threat is still there."

According to Roberts, charges for committing voter fraud can vary.

"They're misdemeanors generally," Roberts said. "But [Small] was charged with eight counts of misusing information. That's a felony, and it implies that information could have been taken off of

the forms. Such information as social security numbers, addresses, etc."

Gilchrist assured that the voters who had lost their information when Small disposed of the forms would be able to vote in November. He also said the state board made a good decision in turning the evidence over to the police.

Small has been released from police custody on a \$3,000 bond on Friday. He's expected to appear in court on Nov. 5, the day before the election. If convicted of the felonies, he will not be able to vote.

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## NETWORK | Good time to start a business despite recession



LAUREN GORDON / THE BREEZE

From left: Joyce Krech, Mary Ann Alger, Mary Lou Bourne and Carol Hamilton met at Alger's home on Wednesday to discuss the network of business professionals and students that they're developing.

from front

This past summer, his team spent time in Kenya teaching its people how to play the game. It helped them find out that the overpopulation of cattle caused the drought, which led to less food and more hunger.

Bourne found out about this game and contacted Mayiani. She and her team are now helping him go through the patent process. He thinks their connections have been very helpful and will also give others the chance to market their ideas.

"Some students might not think they'll have enough support [of their ideas]," Mayiani said, "but their network will give them every possible chance to help them do what they want to do."

There's a lot of overlap of resources in their offices. But what Hamilton appreciates most about the network is that it's close to home.

"It's grassroots," Hamilton said. "It's always been here. We're just trying to put some structure around it."

Hamilton added that the long-term goal of the

project is to gain more alumni experts who want to help current students.

"As people gain experience and become experts and earn money, they start reinvesting into that network," Hamilton said. "It only grows more valuable over time. That's what we're trying to create, so it'll grow and nurture itself."

"Some students might not think they'll have enough support [of their ideas] but their network will give them every possible chance to help them do what they want to do."

**Jacob Mayiani**  
ISAT graduate student

Alger stepped in to help the offices have a stronger presence on campus and in the alumni world.

"The JMU Alumni Association has engaged alums,

and one of the things is that this would be more of a mentor relationship between an alum and a student," Alger said.

She founded a similar network in Ann Arbor, Mich., as part of a business plan competition.

"We can set up for [experts] to spend some time on the phone with that person to review the idea, comment, that type of thing," Alger said. "Our network will be mostly regional but potentially nationwide. We have alums in the Bay Area that want to be engaged, and this is maybe one way they can help."

Even in a recession, they said it's still possible, and actually a good time, to start a business.

"This has been my experience in the last four years — good ideas get funded, if there's good management behind them," Alger said. "There's always people out there who can help make it happen."

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## BAND | MRDs to appear at Thanksgiving Day parade in 2013

from page 3

This year's overall winners in each class were Middletown High School from Middletown, Broad Run High School from Ashburn, Colonial Heights High School from Colonial Heights, and Fairfax High School from Fairfax.

Two of the overall winners won several special awards as well. Broad Run High School, for example, won awards for best percussion, color guard, visual performance and best general effect, losing only once to Broadway High School in best music performance.

Brownell said the MRDs

"It's not often that people get excited about the marching band performing at football games, and we put so much time in. It's nice to perform for people who get what we do..."

**Stephanie Brownell**

MRDs mellophone player

appreciate the extra support they receive from the students who come to the competition.

"It's not often that people get excited about the marching band performing at football games, and we put so much time in," Brownell said. "It's just nice to perform for people [who] get what we do and are here for the same reason — the MRDs are celebrities at the POC."

The MRDs will appear in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade next year. This will be their third appearance in the parade since 2001.

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## FIELD HOCKEY (9-7)

Monarchs  
conquer  
Dukes

Old Dominion's  
defensive dominance  
spoils JMU Senior Day

By **EVAN NICELY**  
contributing writer

Senior Day for the JMU women's field hockey team didn't go as planned as the Dukes lost to No. 9 Old Dominion 2-0 in its final home game of the season.

The Dukes, after bouncing back from two 1-0 defeats, recorded a 3-0 victory against William and Mary Friday night before finishing up arguably their toughest 4-game stretch of the season with the loss against ODU.

Jenna Taylor, a senior midfielder, is confident that the Dukes (9-7, 3-3) had positives to pull from the game despite being outplayed for a majority of the game.

"We came out a little slow and we didn't go forward as much as we would have liked. Defense played well," Taylor said. "The second half we really stepped up as a team and started to attack the game and really play JMU hockey."

JMU, who hasn't beaten Old Dominion since the 2008 season, found themselves down only 1-0 at halftime following a penalty corner goal by freshman Monarch midfielder Sarah Breen despite not registering a shot and being dominated in the first half.

"Fortunately we can rely on our defense and we have done quite well back there but we're working every day to try and get more attack and hang on to the ball longer," said head coach Antoinette Lucas.

The defense did all it could in the second half. However, despite a couple of late offensive chances, ODU sealed the win with another penalty corner goal by Christy Longacre to spoil JMU's senior day.

"It wasn't the outcome we hoped for," redshirt senior midfielder Taylor West said. "We have to take this and just move forward with it."

The Dukes did not register their first shot of the game until midway through the second half. They totaled four shots on the day, with three of them coming off of corner penalties to continue their recent scoring struggles.

"I think we are really close to scoring," said freshman goalie Lena Wimmert. "We had four penalty corners in the second half and we were unlucky to hit the post on one of them."

The three seniors honored before the game were midfielders Auburn Weisensale and West as well as forward Courtney Versfeld. As a class, the three have combined to play 174 games, starting 147 of them. All three have received accolades both on and off the field; all three have been honored as JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athletes, among other things.

"Those three seniors will be missed greatly for who they are but we have a lot of younger underclassmen that can step up in those roles," West said. "They will really be missed on the field as well."

Taylor, a first-team All-Colonial Athletic Association selection and CAA all-tournament nominee in 2011, remains confident in the team as the Dukes prepare for their last regular season game before the CAA tournament.

"I think our team is right where we need to be and we are definitely going to go and make a run for it," said West.

ODU, who is not eligible for the CAA tournament due to its pending conference change, has left the door open for JMU and other teams in the conference to get the league's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

"I just have to get them to trust that we are a good team, that we have the right athletes here, and recognize that we still have the goal in front of us and that is to win the CAA championship," Lucas said. "It's a wide-open tournament and hopefully it will be a great finish for our seniors."

Those three seniors will look to lead their team into their final game at Delaware on Oct. 26.

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## WOMEN'S SOCCER (7-11)



SEAN CASSIDY / THE BREEZE

Senior defender Amalya Clayton heads the ball as Drexel junior defender Andi Stampone and freshman midfielder Lauren Stollar attempt to regain possession. Clayton scored JMU's only goal of the game. It was her second straight game with a game-tying goal dating back to last Thursday.

By **GAVIN HOLDGREIWE**  
contributing writer

It looked like JMU was headed to overtime with a chance to grab a spot in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament, but Drexel University snuck one final goal into the net.

Yesterday, the Dukes lost to Drexel 2-1 after Dragons sophomore midfielder Megan Hammaker scored with seven seconds left in regulation. JMU played well the entire game but failed to find the back of the net. The loss squandered the team's hope for a spot in the CAA tournament and proved to be the finale for its seniors.

"We played for our seniors," junior forward Lauren Wilson said. "To have their career extended just a little bit longer. I think all of our seniors played their best game of the season."

The graduating players were all recognized before the game Sunday and were ready to take over when the first whistle blew. JMU maintained control for the first half, recording five shots to Drexel's zero, but no goals came.

But after being dominated early on, the Dragons came out energized after halftime. Drexel junior midfielder Jess Sarkisian found her way to the box and beat the

goalkeeper 1-on-1 at the start of the second half. The first shot resulted in a goal, putting the Dragons up 1-0.

The Dragons' momentum slowly faded after their goal and JMU regained control. The Dukes continued to get shot opportunities throughout the second half.

Senior defender Becky Sparks threw the ball in from the sideline and fellow senior defender Amalya Clayton connected on the header to tie the game with less than ten minutes to play. The goal was Clayton's second equalizer in as many games.

"They scored in the first two minutes [of the second half] and that kinda rocked us," head coach Dave Lombardo said. "After we scored we had a lot of energy. We created a lot of attack. We just didn't finish the chances."

The Dukes fed off the energy of the late goal, but overtime seemed inevitable. But, with a mere seven seconds remaining, Drexel sent a ball into the upper-right corner of the net to clinch the win. The goal stunned the Dukes who had worked to have the chance to qualify for the tournament.

"It's not the best mood [right now] but we played well over five games," senior midfielder Theresa Naquin said. "We really turned our season around and started

winning. We fought hard for this game. It just didn't work out for us."

JMU won four of their last five games and were tied for sixth in the CAA standings and on the cusp of a playoff berth. Now 5-5 in conference play, the team will finish in seventh place, ineligible for the tournament.

"We had a perfect storm this year; we had a bunch of injuries," Lombardo said. "We were never out there with our desired starting 11, but they fought hard. We were 7-11 but in my opinion we should be 14-4. We lost a couple of games that we were dominated by other teams. The rest of them, [we lost] like this."

This was not the way the seniors wanted to go out and it is a game many members felt that they should have won. But the team will have to move on and look forward to next year.

"There's nothing that you can comfort at this point; this is sports," Lombardo said. "Everything is on the scoreboard and you look up and figure out whether you had a good game or you didn't. We'll get ready for the off-season and try to turn it around next year."

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## LOSS | Freshman backup QB Birdsong fuels JMU offense



BECKY SULLIVAN / THE BREEZE

Freshman quarterback Michael Birdsong scored two touchdowns on Saturday.

from front

After scoring 10 points in the first quarter, the Dukes wouldn't score again until the third quarter.

With the offense sputtering, Birdsong came in with 4:24 to go in the third quarter. "We just felt that we needed to make a change," Matthews said about the decision to bench Thorpe. "Nothing more or less than that."

JMU's offensive production picked up as soon as Birdsong entered the game. On his first play, the quarterback handed the ball off to redshirt junior tailback Dae'Quan Scott, who broke loose for a 43-yard run. Three plays later, Scott ran the ball in for a touchdown with three minutes left in the third quarter to break Richmond's 19-0 run and cut their lead to 28-16, after a failed two-point conversion attempt.

Following another Richmond touchdown that extended their lead 35-16, Birdsong led the Dukes on two fourth-quarter scoring drives.

On JMU's possession starting with 2:53 to play, Birdsong completed five passes for 41 yards and rushed five times for 38 yards, including an eight-yard run for a touchdown to cap the drive with 35 seconds remaining in the game.

With the score 35-29, the Dukes attempted an onside kick and Smith recovered the ball for JMU at its own 48-yard line.

JMU would get to Richmond's 31-yard line, and Birdsong overthrew redshirt junior wide receiver Quintin Hunter in the end zone on the apparent last play of the game, as Richmond players ran onto the field in celebration.

But their celebration was halted as one second was put back on the game clock, giving the Dukes one last hope.

Hunter was again the target on the Dukes' final play, but the pass was batted

down in the endzone to seal the win for Richmond.

"I thought he played great," Matthews said. "He's been practicing good. I thought he really gave us a shot. I think he's a tremendous player."

Matthews wouldn't say whether Birdsong will replace Thorpe as the starter.

"We'll just see," Matthews said. "I'll wait and watch the tape, I really couldn't make a decision right now."

Birdsong expects Thorpe to recover from his benching.

"Some opportunities were missed by both me and him," Birdsong said. "It just wasn't going his way tonight, and that's unfortunate. But, I know he'll bounce back, he'll get his game back together."

Birdsong completed 11 of his 22 passes for 159 yards and a touchdown. He also ran seven times for 73 yards and another touchdown. Before being replaced, Thorpe completed eight of his 13 pass attempts for 142 yards and a touchdown, along with the two interceptions. On the ground, he has 15 rushes for 36 yards.

Richmond's win was its first over a No. 2 team since beating Appalachian State in 2008. It was also the first unranked Spiders squad to beat a top-five team since a win over Rhode Island in 2001.

"It's a very monumental win," Barnette said. "We went through the lowest of lows last year going 0-8 in the conference, and [to] have the No. 2 team come in and we beat them, it's a great feeling."

JMU will return home to face Georgia State this Saturday at 3:30 p.m. for Homecoming.

Coming off of a 49-24 home loss to Villanova the Panthers stand at 1-7 and are ineligible for the CAA championship in anticipation of their move to the Football Bowl Subdivision next season.

**CONTACT** Wayne Epps Jr. at  
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+ October 25<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>  
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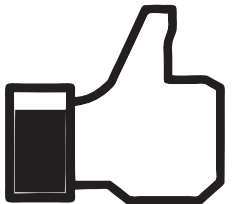


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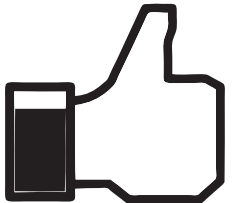
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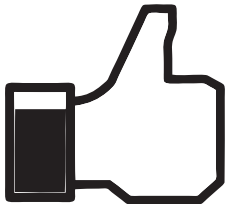




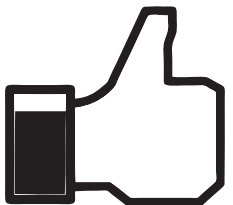
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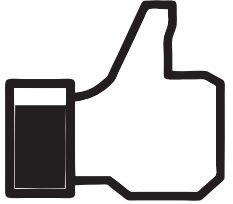
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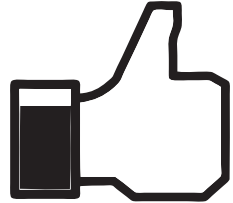
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BRIAN PRESCOTT / THE BREEZE

Allie Toro, a 2007 alumna, plays the central character in "The Girl Who Died Most Mysteriously." The musical opens Saturday at Court Square Theatre.

## Scare tactics

Alum's local musical uses app to include audience in performance

By ALICIA HESSE  
The Breeze

While most plays make audience members turn off cell phones, one local production is encouraging them to keep them on.

Brothers Chris and Mike Howdyshell (a 2006 alumnus) teamed up to write and produce the musical "The Girl Who Died Most Mysteriously," during which audience members with an iOS device can download an application Mike designed specifically for the show, which opens Saturday at Court Square Theatre.

"It makes it a more interactive experience," Mike said. "There's no fourth wall in the show."

The audience can sing along to

lyrics and play sound effects like thunder, moaning and wind. The app also provides photos and biographies of the cast members.

"The Girl Who Died Most Mysteriously" started out as a song Chris wrote, but transformed into a Halloween musical about a down-on-his-luck detective who receives a letter calling him to help solve a mystery.

"We're taking a chance with this," Mike said. "I have no idea if it's going to work, and I'm okay with that. It's a risk to take."

Mike is a full-time language arts teacher at Stuarts Draft Middle School in Augusta County and makes iPhone apps on the side. While talking on the phone to Chris one day, it clicked

>> Scan to download the app.



that he should make an app for the production.

"I'm pretty sure that no other musical or play has done this," Chris said. "I'm saying officially it's the first time it's ever been done."

A mix of honky-tonk and rock, the musical is part of the "Americana" genre, according to Mike and Chris. The music blends the cello, accordion, keys and a pedal steel guitar.

see **MUSICAL**, page 10

## Second City earns first-rate laughs

Chicago comedy troupe fuses prepared sketches, improv and tender moments for Wilson Hall crowd

By JEFF WADE  
The Breeze

Members of legendary comedy troupe The Second City performed to a filled and receptive Wilson Hall on Thursday night.

Roughly 500 audience members saw comedians from the same school of comedy that counts Bill Murray, Stephen Colbert and Tina Fey as alumni. They performed a mix of prepared skits and improvisational comedy.

Comedians Adam Peacock, Pat Reidy, Barry Hite, Nicole Hastings and Emily Walker performed for 90 minutes, stuffing the performance with a plethora of comedic bits. Some skits went on for minutes, while others lasted only a few seconds before fading to black and transitioning to the next bit.

The group used about every possible combination of the five performers, from Hastings and Walker performing a musical tribute to their "lady friendship" to Reid and Peacock as a gay couple who, with their friend Hite, take traditional marriage hostage. Skits frequently started in one place with a seemingly obvious destination before taking an abrupt turn and subverting expectations.

The performance wasn't all laughs though, as one particular sketch by Walker and Hite traded "ha" for "aw." The two played a couple on a blind date, with Hite a nervous suitor who exclusively reads from numerous index cards hidden in various pockets in his suit.

A mid-sketch breakdown reveals that Hite has a number of social anxieties and disorders, and his hilarious awkwardness becomes sympathetic and moving. The two bond as Hite shares another one of his extremely specific index cards with Walker. The skit is largely laughless but a showcase for the pair's acting chops that was sweet without being overly cute.

Music director Ben Harris



BECKY SULLIVAN / THE BREEZE

Second City members Nicole Hastings and Adam Peacock performed dozens of skits alongside fellow members Pat Reidy, Emily Walker and Barry Hite on Thursday night at Wilson Hall. The act contained a mix of topical and irreverent humor.

remained situated at the back corner of the stage but acted as the group's sixth member. In addition to offering piano accompaniment and deploying pre-recorded material, Harris often employed music as a punch line, as well as using snippets from groups like Beach House and St. Vincent contribute to the group's sense of cool.

The group localized some of their material for JMU with mentions of Jack Brown's, presidents Jon Alger and Linwood Rose and maybe a few too many references to college life. The performance looped back at the end, with numerous callbacks to jokes from throughout the performance with skits about college graduation bookending the show.

Junior media arts and design major Mojan Nourbakhsh cited the group's famous reputation as one of her reasons for going.

"It'd be cool to see them on 'Saturday Night Live' one day and be able to say that they were at my school," Nourbakhsh said.

Tony Lopez, a transplant from the group's native Chicago and member of Harrisonburg improv troupe No Strings Attached, was in the audience. Lopez, who jotted notes during the event, was impressed by the confidence the group had in its material and how smoothly they transitioned from scene to scene.

Members of JMU improv troupe New and Improv'd also attended the event. Jeremy Tuohy, a senior theatre

and dance major and director of the group, saw a lot of familiar improv games and techniques in the night's performance.

"I'm a little biased of course," Tuohy said. "But I think it is a much cooler world. Everyone is up there collaborating and discovering together."

According to Liz Rea, University Program Board's public relations director, picking The Second City for a Wilson Hall performance was inspired by wanting to do something different after several years of booking traditional stand-up comics.

**CONTACT** Jeff Wade at breezearts@gmail.com.

### MOVIE REVIEW

## Installment forces fear

*Cheap scares kill 'Paranormal Activity 4'*

By JENNY CLAIRE KNIGHT  
The Breeze

It's October, and that means another scare from the "Paranormal Activity" series.

Picking up several years after the first two films, "Paranormal Activity 4" follows daughter Alex (Kathryn Newton) and her family. When their neighbor (Katie from the original "Paranormal Activity") is taken to the hospital, Alex's family watches over her son, Robbie. While Robbie stays over, weird unexplained events start to happen. Unnerved, Alex starts to investigate Robbie's behavior by using webcams with devastating consequences.

### Paranormal Activity 4

★☆☆☆☆

'R' 88 min.

**Starring** Katie Featherston, Kathryn Newton, Sprague Grayden

The plot is non-existent. Relying solely on the formula of the previous films, nothing interesting is added to the mix. The past three films have built on the demonic ghost lore, pushing the series forward, but this film stalls. It doesn't add any new information about the mythology and the film has lost its creative spark.

The story now looks gimmicky and strained. There are numerous plot holes and inconsistencies — contrary to the film's advertising that "all the activity has led to this," it provides fans with no answers. The popcorn in the movie theater is fresher than this movie.

The success of the original "Paranormal Activity" came from the film feeling like an actual home movie. It resurrected the found footage film genre. The second film scaled out to include more daring scares and established an overarching plot. The third film, while not the best, at least tried something different by going retro.

"Paranormal Activity 4" has none of these qualities. It looks like the studio just cranked it out. The series has gotten lazy, knowing that no matter what the film's quality is, the label will draw audiences.

The few scares in the film are like the items in the \$1 bins: easily forgotten and dirt cheap. The signature soundtrack of a boom seen in the previous films are dropped this time around, robbing the scares of most of their impact. If you've seen the other films, you've seen all of the scares pulled in "Paranormal Activity 4."

The film tries to introduce new scare concepts using Skype and infrared cameras, but they end up underused. Skype allows the audience to see things that the character isn't aware of. Infrared allows the camera to see things you wouldn't be able to see with the naked eye, like a spirit. Infrared is the first attempt by the series to incorporate what actual ghost hunters use when trying to get evidence of paranormal activity. They're clever ideas, and do create a chilling impact, but they're only used in one or two scenes.

The rest of the time is wasted by switching between the different cameras in the different rooms in an unsuccessful attempt to build suspense. You'll get headaches watching each camera point of view, squinting your eyes to look for the expected scare, only to realize you've been watching 20 minutes of nothing.

Most of the characters are complete disasters. There's nothing to like about Alex and her family because they have no personalities. Alex falls into every possible scary movie female cliché and you don't care if she lives or dies.

The only pleasant character to watch is Matt Shively as Ben, Alex's boyfriend. He has a personality, is relatable and energizes the scenes he's in. You'll be rooting for him to make it out of the film alive. Brady Allen is also spooky as the tiny Robbie who lures Alex's brother to the dark side.

With its creative spark blown out, "Paranormal Activity 4" falls into the stereotypical horror film series rut. Instead of making you jump in your seat, it'll have you jumping toward the nearest exit.

**CONTACT** Jenny Claire Knight at knightjc@dukes.jmu.edu.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK MON.-WED.

MONDAY

22

- Sawhill Gallery opening of Harlan W. Butt, a professor of art at the University of North Texas. Features metals and enamels. Lecture 5-6 p.m. in Taylor 405, reception from 6-8 p.m. in Sawhill Gallery. Free.
- JMU Food Day Food fight featuring locally grown foods at E-Hall from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Food demos by local and JMU chefs start at 4:30 p.m. Free.
- Visiting Scholars Programs hosts Millicent Hodson, presenting "The Tumult and Triumph of SACRE: Nijinsky's Rite of Spring at 100" 7 p.m. at the Earlynn J. Miller Dance Theatre in the Forbes Center. Free.

TUESDAY

23

- "R.U.R.," a Studio Theatre production, opens at 8 p.m. at Forbes. For tickets, call 540-568-7000.
- JMU Symphonic Band performs at the Concert Hall in the Forbes Center at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8-\$10. Student tickets are \$5 at the box office with JACard.
- SMAD presents two short, student-produced documentary films, "A Mother's Walk" and "Future Tense," that focus on life in post-war Bosnia and Herzegovina and the ongoing challenges of reconciliation its people face. A Q&A with the student filmmakers follows the screenings. Begins at 7:30 p.m. in Harrison Hall 2105.

WEDNESDAY

24

- Campus Sustainability Day's annual trash sort 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the base of the ISAT stairs. Health sciences students will sort through trash collected from campus buildings to raise awareness about the amount of recyclables put in trash bins.
- Madison Singers and Chorale at the Concert Hall at 8 p.m. in the Forbes Center. Tickets are \$8-\$10. Student tickets are \$5 at the box office with JACard.
- Guest speaker Rick Castaneda, a liaison for Skyline Middle School, presents "It Takes One: Becoming the Change." Focusing on current issues affecting the local Latino community. At 7 p.m. in Taylor Hall 400.

<< What's happening? Send us your club or organization's events for our calendars every Monday and Thursday. Email us at breezearts@gmail.com. >>



ALEX THORNTON / THE BREEZE

A day for the kids

The Children's Harvest Festival on Saturday attracted more than 30 families from the Harrisonburg area. The event, hosted by the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, included activities like a "Magic Forest" tour, seed and nut harvesting, tumbling demonstrations by JMU gymnasts and horse-drawn carriage rides. Children also decorated the Welcome Center walkway with chalk drawings.

The seeds and nuts harvested will be planted along the Chesapeake Bay to help with soil conservation and replenishment. There were also fall arts and craft stations with leaf rubbings and other activities.

"Gus the Bus," a mobile children's reading room with couches, was available for kids to take a break from running around and enjoy a book.

An arboretum employee led children through the trails on a "Magic Tour" that combined storytelling with information about the Arboretum's plant life.

MUSICAL Premieres Saturday

from page 9

"It's 'Little Shop of Horrors' meets 'Scooby-Doo,'" Mike said. Mike and Chris were both born and raised in Harrisonburg and couldn't help but be inspired by their hometown.

The Girl Who Died Most Mysteriously

- Runs nightly Saturday through Tuesday
- 7 p.m. at Court Square Theatre
- Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door

"The show is almost like a love note to Harrisonburg," Mike said.

The lyrics often poke fun at the Valley, but in a lighthearted way.

"Our fair city Harrisonburg, four McDonalds, three El Charros, two Walmarks, about 20 different auto-part stores and a

public transit system that puts Staunton to shame," the lyrics read.

Chris found inspiration for the play in 2008 when walking through the Woodbine Cemetery to on his way to work at WXJM. He noticed an angel statue, weathered with a broken wing, gazing down toward the grave she stands over. He wondered how the girl in the tomb died.

Around the same time, Chris also wrote a series of other songs and wanted to find a way to tie them all together. He wrote seven songs and performed them as a one-man band.

Three years later, he talked to friends about helping him perform it. The show made its debut at The Little Grill Collective last year.

Mike, who plays the narrator, took on an extra role this year by rewriting the script.

"He made it make sense and made the characters more in-depth," Chris said. "He made it funny."

There are 21 cast members,

about half of them JMU alumni.

The music will be accompanied by dances like the Macarena, and possibly choreographed hula hooping. For some songs, cast members plan to go into the audience and encourage people to stand up and dance along with them.

Cast members are responsible for their own costumes and makeup. Chris said he trusts the cast members to decide what façade best suits their character. Mike said that, even as a producer, he won't know what to expect from the cast until opening night.

"The cast members embody the spirit of the play, so they're able to bring their own perspective on what the play is to them," said Allie Toro, a 2007 alum who plays the "dead girl."

Despite heavy themes like death and alcohol, the work is lighthearted in nature.

"I think playful is the whole spirit of the play," Toro said.

CONTACT Alicia Hesse at hesseam@dukes.jmu.edu.



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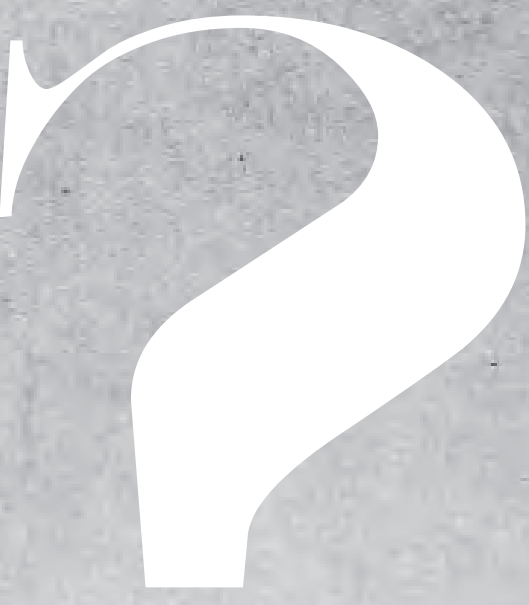
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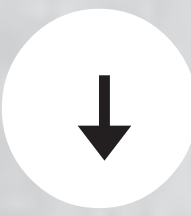
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