JMU psychiatrist’s license suspended

Health director unaware of student involvement in psychiatrist’s masturbation therapy sessions

by Brad Jenkins
senior writer

A local psychiatrist’s status with the university is uncertain following the indefinite suspension of his medical license last week for prescribing masturbation therapy in seven cases from 1969 to 1988.

Dr. Carl Robert Showalter, who sometimes treats JMU students referred to him by the Counseling Center, faces suspension of his medical license for what the Virginia Board of Medicine calls “improper and unethical conduct” involving his private practice in Harrisonburg.

Showalter, JMU’s psychiatrist since 1969, prescribed masturbation therapy, which the Virginia Medical Board said is “not a recognized psychiatric treatment modality.” Showalter also runs a private practice in the Medical Arts building on South 18th Street.

Donna Harper, University Health Center director, said she is not aware of any JMU students involved in the allegations, but Showalter’s status with the university is unclear. “We’re still working out what the implications and ramifications will be,” she said.

Harper would not comment about who is involved in that decision.

Showalter issued a statement through John West, his attorney. “I do not dispute the board’s finding that the treatment I used was an unproven and experimental treatment modality that never gained widespread acceptance,” he said in the statement.

Showalter said he no longer uses masturbation therapy. “I began using this form of treatment almost 30 years ago — based on certain case studies published in scientific literature — in an effort to provide psychiatric treatment for certain patients who struggled with very difficult sexual issues,” he said in the statement.

Black Arts Social Society

Black Arts Social Society spotlights black artists

by Kelly Hannon
staff writer

The imbalance started out subtly but became more noticeable with time. There was no mention of black classical composers in his classical jazz/piano classes, and fellow students typically would be shocked when he told them about sonatas and concertos written by black composers.

Smiling now at the memory, William A. Jones, president of the Black Arts Social Society at JMU, describes the reaction he typically received from fellow musicians.

“You would be talking about a black composer, and they’d be like ‘You mean jazz?’,” Jones said. “Then you would play this classical music for them, and they would be blown away by it. They always think of classical composers as being European. When, you mention a black composer, they’ve never heard of them, but as soon as you say ‘Hey what about that Rachmaninoff Concerto No. 63’” they recognize it immediately.”

Frustrated by the underrepresentation of minority contributions to the arts within the educational curriculum at both JMU and other schools, Jones formed BASS this semester as an organization to promote the contributions made by black to the world of art.

“I believe it brings a balance to the arts, and art is not just...
Showalter signed a consent order Feb. 2 that waived his right to a hearing. The order stated Showalter neither admits nor denies the Medical Board's findings and indicates Showalter hasn't used the treatment in 10 years.

Showalter prescribed the treatment to seven patients who were suffering from sexual problems from 1969 to 1988, according to the consent order. These seven patients have lodged complaints.

In one case, from Feb. 1986 to May 1987, "Showalter represented masturbation as a legitimate form of treatment to Patient B.," the order stated.

Showalter "on occasion had [Patient B] masturbate during, and as part of, therapy sessions," the order states. The patient said he didn't think Showalter received sexual gratification from the therapy, but instead saw it as a therapy technique.

In another case, Showalter allegedly took Polaroid photos of one of his patients. The patient was allegedly naked. "At no time did Patient G feel that Dr. Showalter made any overt sexual advances toward him," the order stated. Patient G also stated the therapy was helpful in addressing his psychological problems.

Showalter can petition the Virginia Board of Medicine for a stay of suspension in three months. At that time, he must submit a psychiatric and a psychological evaluation; two state psychiatrists will determine whether Showalter is fit to return to practice medicine. If the Board of Medicine president determines Showalter is safe to return, he could order Showalter provide medication management and conduct psychiatric evaluations with his present patients, in addition to patients at Rockingham Memorial Hospital and the JMU Health Center. He couldn't provide individually or group therapy. All therapy would require a chaperone.

After one year, Showalter can appeal to have the stayed suspension terminated or modified. This means Showalter could return to private practice if the Medical Board finds him fit to practice.

"Showalter represented masturbation as a legitimate form of treatment to patient B... [Showalter] on occasion had [Patient B] masturbate during, and as a part of, therapy sessions."

continued from page 1

"My recommendation had to do with the patient B. He is modified. This means Showalter could return to practice.

"To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression."

—James Madison


to page 1

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FYI

The Breeze is published Monday and Wednesday morning and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community.

Comments and complaints should be addressed to Kristen Heise, editor.

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An individual may have one copy of The Breeze for free.
All subsequent copies cost 25 cents apiece.

In The Breeze

OPINION

STYLE

FOCUS ON

SPORTS

COMICS

CLASSIFIEDS

12

-12

16

20

23

37

39

CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 6 issue of The Breeze, the article "Where does 'Angel's Gate' lead?" should have said Sean Mercer is a full-time faculty member.

In the Feb. 9 issue of The Breeze, the article "Honors program hopes lab will help decrease drop-out rate should have said another way to graduate in the Honors Program is to write an honors thesis.

The Breeze regrets the errors.

Traffic

continued from page 1

ments that his office forward to the Harrisonburg safety commission, he said.

"Most of the requests come from residents," he said. "I can't remember a request since I've been here from students. We would welcome them if they had concerns."

One request for the light at Devon Lane and Port Republic Road came from the Devon Lane Home Owners Association. Other requests often come from city councilmen, Blessing said.

Blessing's recommendation to add a stop light to the Devon Lane and Port Republic Road intersection wasn't prompted by a lot of accidents, he said.

"My recommendation had to do with the carelessness of people making left turns," Blessing said. "There's some people who don't bother to stop before they make a left turn... The problem is that people don't want to be inconvenienced by waiting.

"People take chances. Aggressive drivers may create accidents. That has not happened up to this point because traffic volumes are not that serious on either road. That's one of the criteria for a traffic signal," Blessing commented.

Blessing also recommended connecting a road between South View and Ashby Crossing apartments.
Learning After Being Instructed to Do So

• Darren C. White, 22, a non-student of Hampton, was arrested and charged with failure to leave an institution of higher learning after being instructed to do so at the rear of the Kappa Sigma social fraternity house at 9:35 a.m. Feb. 8.

The subject reportedly returned to Kappa Sigma and continued drinking after campus police instructed him to leave. He later reportedly entered the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority house.

Harassment/Assault/Threats

• A student reportedly was harassed by a student from another residence hall at 11:28 p.m. Feb. 7.

The student was advised of her rights to file charges with the magistrate and that campus police would assist.

Obscene and Threatening Call

• An obscene and threatening telephone call to a residence hall Feb. 6.

Grand Larceny

• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a wallet containing credit cards and room keys from a desk in a residence hall in Blue Ridge Hall at 9:30 p.m. Jan. 17.

The estimated value of the jewelry is $90.

• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a 2-foot-long, octagon-shaped silver hand weight used as a door stop in the Alpha Kappa Lambda social fraternity house between 11 p.m. Feb. 7 and 12:45 a.m. Feb. 8.

The keys and JAC card were found, but the cost is still missing.

Petty Larceny

• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a 12” sterling silver rope necklace with a square charm and a gold bracelet from the women’s pool locker room between 1:12 a.m. Feb. 6.

The estimated value of the necklace is $80.

• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a 12” sterling silver rope necklace from a wallet with credit cards and keys in the Alpha Kappa Lambda social fraternity house between 11 p.m. Feb. 7 and 12:45 a.m. Feb. 8.

The keys and JAC card were found, but the cost is still missing.

The estimated value of the necklace is $80.

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THE GREEK CORNER
"News for the JMU Greek Community"

Greek Events and Announcements

Assistant Greek Coordinator applications are due tomorrow to the office of Greek Life.

Panhellenic and IFC are sponsoring "No, Yes," by Katie Kestner, a speaker about sexual assault on Monday, Feb. 16 @ 7 p.m. in Mrafton Stovall.

Come join the A-Phiasco 5k Run/Walk on campus this Saturday (Feb. 14). The spirit competition ends tomorrow. Drop money off in your heart-throb's jar.

Greek Corner" is published every week by the IFC. If you have any news or announcements regarding your respective fraternity or sorority, please contact Tutor Mouton @ x7444

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This is a paid advertisement
AIDS program mixes humor with serious message

by Katheryn Lenker

staff writer

Like the spoonful of sugar that makes the medicine go down, humor made the program, “Friendship in the Age of AIDS” more accessible and hard-hitting for the capacity crowd in Wilson Auditorium.

Speakers T.J. Sullivan and Joel Goldman, friends who met at Indiana University and stayed in touch after graduation, brought the story of their friendship and the effect Goldman’s HIV diagnosis had on it to Wilson Hall Monday night.

“All I heard the doctor say was ‘Joel, you’re HIV positive,’” even though he continued talking to me for another hour and a half,” Goldman said.

After his diagnosis in 1983, Goldman decided not to make any decisions about the direction of his life until he was comfortable with his diagnosis. He then decided to call his friends and family to tell them so they wouldn’t find out through the grapevine.

“There is nothing worse than having to tell your mother and father that you will probably pass away [before] them,” Goldman said. He was lucky all his friends and family were supportive, he said. Goldman also contacted seven of his past sexual partners so they could be tested for the virus. All were HIV negative.

Goldman’s phone call to Sullivan prompted only shock and disbelief, Sullivan said.

“I don’t remember the exact words, but for the first time in my life one of my best friends told me he was HIV-positive,” Sullivan said.

Goldman also discussed how he learned to use alcohol as an icebreaker in college and continued that pattern after graduation and frequently had sex when he was drunk.

He said he would rationalize his decision to have sex with someone when he was drunk by telling himself that his partners were safe because they came from good homes and appeared healthy.

“We don’t just sleep with one person, we sleep with whole sexual histories,” Sullivan said. “You can’t tell if someone has HIV or AIDS [by looking at them].”

People don’t think about the consequences of their actions on other people, even unborn children, he said. A pregnant woman with HIV/AIDS has a forty percent chance of giving her child HIV/AIDS. If she takes a course of anti-AIDS medication, she can reduce the chance of passing the disease to her child to two percent.

Sullivan, who contracted the AIDS virus after mixing sex and alcohol, described the four stages of intoxication. He used several examples to illustrate the stages.

In the first stage, the inhibition stage, people lose their inhibitions after one to two drinks. In this stage, people will try every pick-up line they’ve heard on TV and think they’ll work, he said.

The second stage, the loss of judgment stage, occurs after three to four drinks. Sullivan said women in this stage will “be talking to you and all of a sudden they start crying, or the guys will become aggressive. Everyone has a friend who’s 5’6” and wants to beat [everyone] up when he’s drunk, right?”

Stage three, the loss of reaction stage, occurs after five to six drinks. In stage three, a person’s body uses most of its oxygen to process the alcohol, so people have difficulty focusing on more than one thing at a time. Sullivan said when he was drunk, he would get really hungry and want to go to Taco Bell.

“All I could think about was...
**Washington Semester**

**LIVE, STUDY AND INTERN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SPRING 1999**

Interested? Please come to a meeting:

Tuesday, February 17, 4:30
Maury G-1

Topics: housing, costs, internships and courses in Washington.

Applications/information available in the Political Science Dept., Maury 118. For further information:

- Dr. Ellis, ellis1me@jmu.edu
- Dr. Blake, blakech@jmu.edu, 3456
- Dr. Roberts, robertrn@jmu.edu, 6323
- Dr. Bent, bentdc@jmu.edu, 6149

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**Black Man Rising**

A three person play that celebrates the strength, resourcefulness, and resilience of the African American Male

Wilson Hall
February 17, 1998
at 8:00 p.m.

**FREE**

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**Valentine's Day**

- **bunch balloons**
  - latex: $3.09 - $8.99
  - mylar: $17.95 - $33.95

- **gum balls**
  - latex: by the bunch starting at $4.49
  - mylar: starting at $9.99

- **vases**
  - theaters: $6.19
  - triple carnations: $6.49

**Floral arrangements**

- coffee mug: $8.99
- pastel basket: $8.29
- mixed bouquets: $4.09

- **gardenia bunches**
  - 1: $1.39
  - 3: $3.96
  - 6: $7.59
  - 12: $13.69

- **Special arrangements**
  - 15 minute phone card
    - single rose: $9.59
    - single carnation: $7.19
    - mixed bouquet: $9.99
  - 3 carnations: $9.99
  - 3 latex balloons: $7.99

- 1 imprint: $7.99

**Delivery Dates and Times**

- Faculty and Staff: Fri 9am-11am
- Students: Fri 4pm-8pm & Sat 10am-3pm

Deadline for delivery orders is Thurs Feb 12th 4pm

- 15 minute phone card
  - single rose
  - 2 latex balloons: $9.59

- 15 minute phone card
  - single carnation
  - 2 latex balloons: $7.19

- 15 minute phone card
  - mixed bouquet
  - 2 latex balloons: $9.99

- 3 carnations: $9.99
- 3 latex balloons: $7.99

- 1 imprint: $7.99

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**Wilson Hall**
February 17, 1998
at 8:00 p.m.

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**IN BRIEF**

**Thursday**
- Madison Marketing Association raffle, Zane Showker Hall, lobby, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Fellowship and dinner, Wesley Foundation, 5:30 p.m. Details: Ben, 434-3490.
- Fellowship and praise, sponsored by Baptist Student Union, BSU Center, 5:30 p.m. Details: BSU Center, 434-6822.
- Madison Mediators meeting, Taylor Hall, rm. 402, 6 p.m. Details: Jessica, 879-597.
- Russian Club meeting, Keezell Hall, rm. 303, 6:30 p.m. Details: David, 801-7476.
- NAACP meeting, Taylor Hall, rm. 306, 7 p.m.
- New Life Singers, Wesley Foundation, 7 p.m. Details: Ben, 434-3490.
- Folk Group practice, sponsored by Catholic Campus Ministry, CCM House, 7:30 p.m. Details: Christina, 434-6822.
- Gemi Entertainment meeting, Taylor Hall, rm. 311, 7:30 p.m. Details: Kristin, 834-355.
- Social Dance Evening, sponsored by the School of Theatre and Dance, Godwin Hall, rm. 355, 8 p.m.
- Bible study, Wesley Foundation, 8:15 p.m. Details: Ben, 434-3490.

**Friday**
- Breakdance Club meeting, Godwin Hall, rm. 137, 4:30 p.m. Details: Kevork, 434-6989.
- Bible study, sponsored by BSU, BSU Center, 7 p.m. Details: BSU Center, 434-6822.
- Senior Dance Concert, sponsored by the School of Theatre and Dance, Godwin Hall, rm. 355, 8 p.m.
- Valentine’s Dance, sponsored by BSU, BSU Center, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Details: Mandi, 432-9802.

**Saturday**
- Senior Dance Concert, sponsored by the School of Theatre and Dance, Godwin Hall, rm. 355, 8 p.m.
- Mass, sponsored by BSU, BSU Center, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Details: Mendi, 432-9802.
- Bible study, sponsored by CCM, CCM House, 9 p.m. Details: Christine, 574-0354.
- Contemporary worship service, sponsored by Wesley Foundation, Wesley Foundation, 7 p.m. Details: Ben, 434-3490.
- Mass, sponsored by CCM, CCM House, 9 p.m. Details: Christine, 574-0354.

**Sunday**
- Mass, sponsored by CCM, Grafton-Stovall Theatre, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Details: Christine, 574-0354.
- Contemporary worship service, sponsored by Wesley Foundation, Wesley Foundation, 7 p.m. Details: Ben, 434-3490.
- Mass, sponsored by CCM, CCM House, 9 p.m. Details: Christine, 574-0354.

**NEWS**

"Seinfeld" commercials could cost millions — not that there's anything wrong with that.

NEW YORK — Expecting Super Bowl-like ratings, NBC may ask Super Bowl-like dollars for the last original episode of "Seinfeld" — and then some.

The network may ask as much as $2 million for a 30-second commercial on the hugely popular sitcom's hour-long finale on May 14. That would break the TV ad record of $1.3 million set just last month by the Super Bowl, which also was on NBC.

The trade magazine Advertising Age said Monday that NBC started floating the $2 million asking price among media buyers last week but has no takers so far. The trade publication Mediaweek said buyers were told NBC wants $1.7 million to $2 million for a single ad spot on the finale.

Larry Hoffner, president of network sales for NBC, said Monday there had been no final determination on what NBC is going to seek for the last "Seinfeld.

"We're not out in the marketplace with this right now, but we expect to be shortly — in the next week or so," he said, adding none of the nine to 10 minutes of commercial time on the show had been sold yet.

The Super Bowl, which saw the Denver Broncos beat the Green Bay Packers for the National Football League championship, had an average rating of 44.5. A ratings point represents 980,000 households.

"Seinfeld" has been among the highest-rated series on TV in the past few seasons, with ratings this season in the low 30s. Hoffner said NBC is "looking at Super Bowl ratings" for the finale.

Jon Mandel, who oversees network ad purchases for the agency Grey Advertising, said the reported $2 million asking price was designed to "get some headlines." He expects the real price will be lower.

—AP newsfinder news service

**General Assembly considers legislation to fine physicians involved in assisted suicides**

RICHMOND — Terminally ill patients who want to die would have a more difficult time convincing someone to help them commit suicide under legislation being considered by the General Assembly.

Anyone assisting a suicide would be fined $10,000 for a first violation and $100,000 for a subsequent one. A physician involved in the suicide could lose his medical license for life.

"The physician's prime challenge and charge is to assist a person in lying, not assist a person in dying," said Madeline Abbott, director of legislative affairs for the Medical Society of Virginia. "To put a physician in the position of assisting in someone's death, the Medical Society believes to be ethically wrong.

The bill passed the assembly last year but had a clause requiring it to be re-enacted after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on assisted suicide. In June, the court found no constitutional right to doctor-assisted suicide.

The court upheld laws in New York and Washington state that make it a crime for doctors to give life-ending drugs to mentally competent but terminally ill patients who want to die. But the court did nothing to bar states from legalizing the process.

The ruling opened the way for Virginia to pass a final version of its assisted-suicide legislation, and the state Senate was scheduled to vote on the bill yesterday.

The bill's opponents say it interferes with a patient's right to die with dignity.

"We believe it should be a matter of individual choice," said Dan Blake, a spokesman for the Denver-based Hemlock Society, which advocates physician-assisted suicide.

—AP newsfinder news service

**Preview**

Coming soon to The Breeze...

- News: Black History Month celebrations at JMU during February
- Style: Regal Cinema 14 coming soon to Harrisonburg
Thanks for making our properties #1!
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YEARBOOK
The 1998-99 Bluestone

Positions available:
- Copy Editor
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- Classes Editor
- Sports Editor and Assistant Editor
- Greek Life/Organizations Editor
- Business Manager
- Photography Editor
- Staff Photographers
- New Position! Technical Manager: must be proficient with flatbed and negative scanners, Photoshop and web page design

Applications available at The Bluestone, Anthony Seeger Room 217 (within the WXJM offices).

Application, résumé and cover letter due February 27.

Call Rachel with questions at x6541.

EARN $4000
this summer and excellent job experience

Work as a
Summer Conference Assistant
at JMU
Earn $7.88/hr

Work directly with conference sponsors and their groups. (i.e. sports camps, professional associations, workshops, and youth camps.)

Day-to-day duties will include supporting events and conferences operations, check-ins, check-outs, room set-ups, audio visual support, recreation, scheduling, etc.

TO APPLY: Pick up and return applications from the University Center Office, Warren Hall 502. Contact person: Diane Elliot.

CLOSING DATE: Feb. 27, 1998

Qualifications:
- Must be available for the flexible schedule, assigned weekly, to include nights, all weekends, and occasional 24 hour on call status.
- Public relations experience, proven organizational skills, and the ability to work in a high volume, fast paced environment are preferred.
- Work environment requires close teamwork and the ability to work with a variety of people and situations.
- Computer skills with IBM compatible word processing and spreadsheet applications in a Windows environment required.
- Must be available May 11 thru Aug. 11, 1998, and for selected training periods (evening/weekends) during the month of April. (One evening/one weekend day)
AIDS

continued from page 5

"chicken burritos," Sullivan said. For some people, sex becomes their chicken burrito and can lead to bad choices like unprotected sex," he said.

The fourth stage occurs after the seventh or eighth drink. This is called the coordination stage, also called the broken elevator stage, because "no matter what you do, the elevator isn't going up," Sullivan said.

In this stage, one's coordination is greatly impaired. Women will pass out sooner than men, pound for pound and drink for drink, which can lead to a possible sexual assault, he warned.

Goldman and Sullivan closed the program with a simple demonstration.

"Joel is HIV positive. Joel drank from this bottle. T.J. is HIV negative," Sullivan said, taking a drink from the bottle, "and I still am now."

The demonstration was a visual reminder that HIV/AIDS can only be transmitted four ways: unprotected sex, sharing needles with an infected person, receiving a contaminated blood transfusion and from mother to unborn child.

Gospel

continued from page 5

Also at the meeting:

• Violet Allain, professor of education, was the guest speaker. She works with the General Education Program and is a member of the GenEd Council.

• Commuter Sen. Wrenn Cox said upperclassmen are worried about meeting their requirements for liberal studies because some courses are being phased out of the curriculum.

• Senate unanimously passed a finance bill allocating Campus Crusade for Christ $800 to pay for meeting space off campus.

Tough test?

Call someone for sympathy.

1-800-COLLECT
Sunday 2/15
- Oatmeal, Scrambled Eggs
- Sausage Patties
- Pancakes, Tator Tots
- Vegetable Beef Soup
- Chicken Breast Stuffed with Broccoli
- Garden Rice / Green Bean Bagels, Danish
- Pasta Fagioli

Salmon
- Roast Pork
- Baked Sweet Potatoes
- Cornbread Stuffing
- Cinnamon Apples
- Fresh Vegetable Pasta

Menu Item
- Stuffed Peppers

Monday 2/16
- Chicken Casserole
- Beef Stroganoff
- Egg Noodles
- Carrots
- Spinach

Menu Item
- Stuffed Peppers

Tuesday 2/17
- Minnesota Wild Rice Soup
- Chicken Nuggets
- BBQ Beef Sandwich
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Broccoli Spears
- Broiled Tomatoes

Menu Item
- Vegetable Lo Mein

Wednesday 2/18
- Cream of Tomato Soup
- Tocino Salad
- Grilled Cheese Sandwich
- Refried Bean
- Green Bean
- Mixed Vegetables

Menu Item
- Vegetable Lo Mein

Thursday 2/19
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich
- Chicken Cheesesteak Sub
- Potato Lasagna "Mushrooms
- Peas" Ratatouille
- Sauteed Onions & Peppers

Menu Item
- Vegetable Lo Mein

Friday 2/20
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza
- Tuna Noodle Casserole
- Onion Rings
- Green Beans
- Cauliflower au Gratin

Menu Item
- Vegetable Lo Mein

Saturday 2/21
- Scrambled Eggs
- Oatmeal
- Apple/Lemon Chicken
- Sausage
- French Onion Soup
- Chicken Fajitas
- Broccoli, Mixed Vegetables

Menu Item
- Tuna Noodle Casserole


calypso nights

February 19, 1998
Gibbons Hall Dining Room 6
5:30 - 7 p.m.

Buffet Menu
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- Sauteed Red, Green and Yellow Peppers
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- Snapper with Key Lime Salsa & Coconut Rice
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- Reservations Required! Fifty guests per seating.
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- Names and social security numbers of entire party must be given at time of reservation.
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Editorial

Face Off: Safe Zones intrusive?

Safe Zones an outlet for students to discuss homosexual issues, not an intrusion

— Cynthia Gilliatt

The Safe Zones program, far from being an intrusion, is, as last week's Breeze article clearly indicated, an opportunity for members of the JMU community to enter a safe, non-judgmental space where they can discuss concerns about sexuality. Those who participate in the workshop and other activities and display the Safe Zones logo freely choose to do so. Those who accept the invitation to conversation freely choose to do so as well.

Who might accept the invitation to enter a Safe Zones space for conversation? Anyone with questions about sexual identity, including those coming to terms with their own identities, those who have learned a friend or family member is gay, those who simply have questions — all of these people are welcome.

Gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered members of the JMU community might simply welcome a space in which they can relax and be accepted as the unique individuals they are.

For everyone in the JMU community, the existence of the Safe Zones program and the symbol of the Safe Zones logo says JMU community doesn't tolerate discrimination or bigotry. The Safe Zones logo says JMU is a welcoming and inclusive community.

Finally, in supporting the Safe Zones program, JMU students have an opportunity to learn more about sexual identity, to question what they think they know, and to see that the JMU community might simply welcome a space in which they can relax and be accepted as the unique individuals they are.

Gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered members of the JMU community might simply welcome a space in which they can relax and be accepted as the unique individuals they are.

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Cynthia Gilliatt is a professor of English.

Safe Zone symbols intrusive, even offensive to students of opposing beliefs

— Jason Miyares

It seems that while we're preparing our school for the next century of higher education, political correctness is rearing its ugly head. JMU now has the politically correct Safe Zones for gay, lesbian and transgendered students. Here they can find refuge with understanding faculty members sensitive to their problems.

One problem with this idea is our already tight budget is funding training programs to teach faculty members to be sensitive to homosexual students' needs, according to one faculty member I spoke to about the program. Why train faculty members to be sensitive to a lifestyle that is largely one's choice? Why aren't we spending money so we can have safe zones for every minority, female and ethnic group on campus? Are the needs of the gay community greater than for minorities? African-Americans face more overt racism in the Harrisonburg community than homosexuals.

Furthermore, is it necessary to have faculty members as Safe Zones? Do gay students have a problem being assaulted by their professors? Gay students already know professors sympathetic to their problems; they don't need a pink triangle on a door to tell them who to go to. We don't need to spend money on what I call a "feel good" program.

Finally, for social conservatives a Safe Zone symbol can be quite offensive. It means their professors endorse a lifestyle they might find offensive or against their personal beliefs. Why does it seem every group on campus needs to be protected except social or religious conservatives? I've had my Christian beliefs insulted, slandered and assaulted far more in the classroom than homosexuals, I can assure you. However, I'm not asking for a safe zone. All I'm asking for is for some common sense; don't waste money on a program that's unnecessary and unaffordable.

Jason Miyares is a senior business management major.

Dart...

A "grow-up" dart to the male athletes who showed their immaturity and rudeness with their outbursts during the speech Monday night in Wilson Hall.

Sent in by some disappointed students who thought they'd already graduated from junior high.

Pat...

A "thanks-for-the-rides" pat to my girlfriend who patiently drove me around while my license was suspended by "The Man."

Sent in by an appreciative boyfriend who hopes he can return the favor when he gets his license back.

Dart...

A "stop-wasting-my-money" dart to Computing Support for not fixing the modem lines to dial in from off campus.

Sent in by a student who's tired of having to go to campus to check his e-mail.

Pat...

A "thanks-for-being-so-nice" pat to the PC Dukes employee who helped me clean up a mess after I spilled an entire tray of food on the floor.

Sent in by a student who's grateful you were around to help out.

Dart...

A "dirty-tricks" dart to Vending Services for taking the french fry machine out of Blue Ridge Hall and putting it in Wilson without telling anyone.

Sent in by hungry Blue Ridge students who think it's hard enough to live off campus without having to starve as well.

Pat...

A "thanks-for-helping-me" pat to the guy who rescued me from having to shovel snow and ice with my dustpan.

Sent in by a girl who hasn't invested in a snow shovel but is glad there was someone around who has.

Darts & Pats are submitted anonymously and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions are based upon one person's opinion of a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth.
Breeze cartoon offensive, racist, hinders racial understanding at JMU

To the Editor:

I found the "Stitchface & Sock" cartoon in Monday's Breeze to be divisive and offensive. It's a racial slur to call a white person a "honky" — even if you draw a smiling face at the end of the statement like the cartoon does. Likewise, poking fun at slang used by some African-Americans is racism.

For a moment, I doubted my interpretation of the cartoon and wondered if I simply had missed an inside joke. But I reasoned that even if a racist says, "I really didn't mean to do it," the damage has already been done.

Racism is much like rape. Whether it's the Ku Klux Klan burning a cross on a lawn, or Bob & Marty Z using a cartoon to poke fun at the speech of a segment of society, or identifying a group by a less than dignified name, it violates that person or group. It still does irreparable damage and causes needless pain. Haven't we learned anything from past atrocities?

Because the sock isn't a black sock, I assume it's not African-American. If I interpret the drawing correctly, the white sock apparently mimics vernacular language of some African-Americans at times by saying "yo daddy." Stitchface then calls Sock a white honky because of it.

Last year I received a grant to have a program promoting campus unity through respect for individual and group diversity. My program was attended by 170 students who applauded each other's differences and left feeling better about themselves and others. Yet you circulated this racist cartoon to 8,500 people and destroyed my good works and the excellent joint efforts of JMU faculty, staff and students toward community unity.

Campus personnel have made numerous efforts to promote diversity such as programs presented recently by the Commission on Community, Black Student Alliance, Elizabeth Garbrah-Aidooh from the political science department and the Office of Affirmative Action. All have goals of opening up dialogue to discuss issues which divide our campus in order to build cohesiveness and understanding of differences in culture, race, lifestyle, gender and age. The Center for Multicultural Student Services had an appropriate name for its recent program: "Bridging the Racial Divide." So I would like an explanation from The Breeze. Why are you tearing down the bridges JMU is building?

Joyce Liptrap
Office of Affirmative Action secretary

Student drivers need to be defensive drivers, more considerate of pedestrians

To the Editor:

Although I'm a mere freshman, I've already faced a myriad of near-death experiences at JMU. I've nearly drowned in five-foot puddles, I was almost run over by a snow plow and I nearly plunged to my death down the steps of almost every building this winter. However, none of these experiences compare to the countless number of times I've almost been flattened by a driver while walking around campus.

I can't count how many times I've crossed Main Street to get to Anthony-Seeger and noticed, much to my horror and amazement, that the cars speed up rather than slow down. Although it's understandable that everyone's in a hurry to get to wherever they're going, it doesn't seem too much to ask that one take thirty seconds to let someone cross the street.

If this is a problem, why not at least maintain a constant speed rather than accelerating when someone crosses the street?

When did we start associating people's driving ability with how fast they drive? It seems that if people drive the speed limit, they're bad drivers. The term defensive driving — which we were taught to use — is now a joke. Aggressive drivers control the road.

Everyone has seen or experienced a driver nearly taking out people on the sidewalk when trying to avoid a puddle, animal or whatever. I understand not wanting to hit animals, but going 50 miles per hour through a puddle you had to stray five miles from the road to hit isn't considered aggressive driving; it's immature and thoughtless.

The same goes for people who'd rather run a person over than let them cross in front of their car. Whether you let people cross or not, you'll get home, maybe just a minute or so later than you expected.

Why is everyone in such a hurry? Is something other than a medical emergency ever important enough to make someone drive recklessly? The answer should be obvious — no. We've all been that pedestrian on the sidewalk, trying to cross the street; I know we can all empathize. Everyone wants to get somewhere, whether driving or walking. If we're all considerate to one another, we'll get where we need to go — and all in one piece.

Tara Hafer
freshman
SMAD

Pro-choice advocates shouldn't be called 'meat managers' for their views

To the Editor:

In response to Alfred Lemmo's letter to the editor in last Friday's Breeze regarding Roe v. Wade, I want to first assert that "the difficult question of when life begins" is partly a matter of philosophy and theology. Despite that the origins of life can be scientifically proven to have begun with unicellular organisms, there are many who believe in creationism. This is a perfect example of the delicate balance between that which is spiritual and emotional and that which is factual.

I have many friends who are pro-life, and I must respect their positions because their views are formed from a personal belief that terminating a potential life is unimaginable. While I'm unshakably pro-choice, I respect my friends' views because they stem from the emotional, religious and personal part of their psyches, not the reasoning part.

Where my problem lies is in Lemmo's assertion that pro-choice supporters obviously hold a "meat manager mentality." The very reason that the abortion debate rages on indefinitely is because both sides are unwilling to stray from "when does life begin?" arguments for the truth. Like belief in God, whether abortion should be legal is a personal choice and an emotional appeal — not a scientific truth.

I don't think all women should believe in abortions or should have them. However, the choice must remain safe one. It's ironic that as someone who doesn't wish to see thousands of women die from botched illegal abortions and bombing deaths, I'm somehow labeled "mindless" against "human rights."

Yael Utt
senior
political science

Student drivers need to be defensive drivers, more considerate of pedestrians

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Tara Hafer
freshman
SMAD

Physical appearance not important; Breeze columnist has right idea

To the Editor:

I wish to commend Kelley Blassingame, Breeze opinion editor, for her editorial in Monday's issue. She expressed concerns that many college students care more about the physical appearance of others — and of themselves — than they do about the inner person. She wrote that it's time for students to "grow up" and "learn how to be well-rounded, respected and honorable adults."

While I wholeheartedly support Blassingame's position, I want to point to that many so-called adults are just as shallow as she feels her peers are. Unfortunately, society places such an emphasis on physical appearance that some individuals feel they have no self-worth if they aren't physically attractive. Also, some people don't take time to get to know someone they don't perceive to be attractive on the outside.

Several years ago I purchased a plaque that is now displayed in my home. It reads, "Sometimes the heart sees what is invisible to the eye." There's no author listed to whom I can give credit, but I firmly subscribe to that belief. We should all see others more with our hearts instead of with our eyes. Perhaps we'd discover that some of the most beautiful people we know are those whose physical appearance we can't conjure up in our minds!

Brenda Wilkinson
math department secretary

OP/ED

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For more information see page 35.
For the day of hearts, a pair of aces

From Shakespeare’s ‘Shrew’ to a contemporary comedy, two plays visit local theatres this weekend

by Jim “Vegas” Terp

style editor

more than any other holiday, Valentine’s Day is a time when people desire laughter— or so the logic seems to run with two area theatre groups. Two comedies hit Harrisonburg this weekend with The Valley Playhouse’s presentation of Paul Freed’s “Death By Chocolate” and The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express’ “The Taming of the Shrew” at Eastern Mennonite University.

Junior Stephen Winslow directs “Death By Chocolate,” a combination comedy and murder-mystery. Winslow, who is a recent transfer to JMU, was approached by his mentor Phillip Grayson, professor of theatre, to direct the play just before winter break. Winslow was sold on the play from the get-go.

“I read the play and I just laughed,” Winslow says. “I laughed from the first and second page right on through to the end. It’s just fun. It was very light-comedy perfect for this setting.”

The action of the play takes place in the soon-to-be opened Meadowbrook Health Resort, a place where people begin dying left and right just before the resort’s official opening. As the rest of the play unfolds, audience members watch as the health resort manager Phil Stone (played by sophomore Phil Male) and playwright Ed Parlor (played by Gordon Fisher) search for the killer.

The show, which runs at approximately an hour and 45 minutes, stars a former JMU mathematics professor, Fisher, and 10 current and former JMU students. Although most of the cast have some high school acting experience, only Male (in the lead role), junior Marie Byrd and freshmen Kacy Damaty have collegiate acting experience.

One acting newcomer, Susan Comfort, a 1984 JMU graduate, became involved with the Valley Playhouse earlier this year when her daughter was involved in play. From doing make-up to selling tickets to acting as Lady Riverdale in “Death By Chocolate,” Comfort’s efforts epitomize the community aspect of the Valley Playhouse.

“One you get involved, they don’t forget you,” Comfort says.

Also this weekend the SSE performs Shakespeare’s comic take on love and marriage with “The Taming of the Shrew” at Eastern Mennonite University. The play is co-directed by Ralph Cohen, professor of English, and Peggy O’Brien, vice president at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Cohen calls the play “A crowd pleaser that’s an underrated work of literature.”

The female lead is played by Kate Norris, who recently starred as King Richard in the SSE’s “Richard III.” “Death By Chocolate” is at the Valley Playhouse today through Saturday and Feb. 18-21 at 8 p.m. There is also a show Sunday and Feb. 22 at 3 p.m. Tickets are $6. For more information call 432-0634.

“The Taming of the Shrew” is Saturday at 8 p.m., at EMU’s Strite Auditorium. Tickets are $5. For more information call 434-3366.
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**UNIVERSITY PLACE**

The Place to Be!
Seniors present works in annual dance concert

by Ann Keast
contributing writer

While most of the class of 1998 is thinking about where they will work after they graduate, a small number of senior dance majors are coordinating the production, choreography and performance for this year's Senior Dance Concert titled "A Slice of My Pie." JMU School of Theater and Dance presents its annual accumulation of senior dance works on Friday and Saturday in Godwin Hall room 356. For these select senior dance majors, this weekend's concert offers the chance to show what they've learned at JMU about the art of dance.

The program includes a variety of solo and group works as well as an improvisation performed by the senior dance majors. One of the group works showcased is senior Jennifer Harvey's "Hide and Seek." This tap dance has an unusually innovative, modern structure in which the dancers playfully move according to varying rhythms in the music.

Senior Elizabeth Kuzmick performs her piece "Hail" for a second time. Kuzmick, who debuted the dance during the fall student dance concert has been revising the dance since last fall. She describes "Hail" as "Sort of fanatical, religious, but that's not the most part. I'd say the biggest part is really group dynamics and partnering. It's gotten a lot more physical and group interaction has become a greater part since the last time it was performed," she said.

Several solo works will also be performed including senior Michelle Kaulback's personal solo "A Touch of Light."

"It's all about the deep physical, emotional and many types of reflection that develop in a relationship," Kaulback says.

Senior Amy Eisenhower shares her solo dance "Closet Ghost," which is artistically based on her relationship with her deceased grandmother and her quest to make meaning of the past.

Senior Michelle Schmitt also performs her solo, "Claiming My Rite." "It deals with a individual searching for and trying to claim her rites," Schmitt says. "I began searching for a religion and then it transformed into more of a search for my identity."

Although there is no official theme for this year's concert, perhaps it might be one of individuality. Each piece is unique and each senior shows a part of who they are in the senior improvisation, "A Slice of My Pie."

Senior Kristin Smith says, "The improvisation is going to have some of our memories of JMU as well as a signature move [from] each of the seniors."

The Senior Dance Concert also anticipates each dancer's journey into the real world of employment. This year's class is focused on post-graduate studies and trying to find work in dance meccas around the country.

Michelle Kaulback comments on her plans saying, "I will be moving to Austin, Texas, for approximately a year and then I'm planning to attend graduate school for dance therapy."

Elizabeth Kuzmick has a more abstract plan: "I'm moving to New York with a friend of mine. Hopefully to do costume design and dance."

The Senior Dance Concert should appeal to students of all disciplines because as Elizabeth Kuzmick says, "There's a good variety of works. It shows all the stuff we've been working on for our whole time here at JMU. I think everybody's piece is really strong. It's a really interesting concert."

The Senior Dance Concert is Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. at Godwin Hall rm. 356. Tickets are $3 for students/seniors, $5 general admission. For more information call: x6511.
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Senior Sean McMillan is stumped.
That's tough one,” he says, shaking his head. “I just don’t know.”

McMillan is not sweating over a calculus problem or trying to come up with a thesis for his American Lit essay. He’s sitting on the couch of a friend’s apartment, drinking a Red Dog and watching the Washington Wizards beat the Golden State Warriors on TV. And he’s trying to identify a major source of stress in his life. He’s stumped. But then who wants to think on a Tuesday night?

It isn't that McMillan is lazy. He transferred to JMU last semester after two years at Northern Virginia Community College. On top of a full course load, he works 20 hours a week making Pizzas for Chanello's, and he still finds time to host a weekly funk show on WXJM. Rather, the truth of the matter would no doubt baffle pundits and administrators even though it is news to virtually no one: College, most of the time, just isn’t that hard.

Ever since novelist Douglas Coupland coined the term “Generation X,” the college kids of the '90s have labored under the insulting fallacy that they invented sloth. Just last month, researchers from the University of California at Los Angeles released the findings of a study that suggested this year’s crop of college freshmen are collectively lazier than any other since the Johnson administration.

More of the freshmen surveyed reported feeling bored in class, oversleeping and missing class, and drinking at least four times a month than any previous freshman class. JMU freshmen, according to a Breeze survey, are well ahead of the national curve in all categories but the latter: Only 48 percent of JMU’s Class of 2001 reported drinking at least four times a month, compared with 56 percent nationally.

Regardless of whether you find these numbers alarming, the fact is the freshmen who don’t flunk out still have at least three years to defy the onset of responsibility. A more crucial question concerns college seniors, mere months away from the abyss. How many of them read a newspaper, only find time to host a weekly funk show on WXJM. Rather, the truth of the matter would no doubt baffle pundits and administrators even though it is news to virtually no one: College, most of the time, just isn’t that hard.

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Senior Dave Stonies would, at a glance, appear to be the poster boy for Young Initiative.

After completing an internship with the accounting firm Arthur Anderson last summer, he has a permanent position awaiting him with the company in his hometown of Philadelphia after graduation. He expects to work 40 to 60 hours a week in his new job, which is why he plans to spend a month or two kicking around Harrisonburg — and four to six weeks kicking around Europe — before he joins the cufflink-wearing rank-and-file.

Yet Stonies has never voted in any election. He reads Time and Newsweek, but only during the 10 hours a week he works at the Taylor Down Under coffee bar. Asked to describe his life at college; he deadpans, "Horizontal."

"I'm a pretty happy camper all around, this semester," he says. Though his junior year was difficult, he describes the bulk of his college career as being virtually stress-free.

"Last semester I drank three nights a week, and I got a 4.0," he notes.

Some faculty members have heard this all before and dismiss the bleak predictions as overanxious pessimism.

Randy Mitchell, associate vice president for the Student Success Program, questions the validity of such claims.

"The complaints about today's students are the same things they said when I was a student," he says. "You don't have to be out on the streets carrying a banner to be involved."

"When things are good in a country, people are less likely to be involved," Mitchell says. "Right now unemployment is low and we are on an economic upturn. Although there are a multitude of social issues, people are more reluctant to get politically involved when things are going well in their lives. All things move in cycles, I don't know that students are any more apathetic now than in times past."

Bethany Oberst, executive director of International Education, views the issue similarly.

"I have seen the subject of student apathy raised periodically," she says, "in the '80s and now again in the '90s it's a fair question to ask, but it's a routine issue."

"The Student Success Program looks to change the infrastructure of the university to increase the student learning environment and overall college experience..."

"...I don't know that students are any more apathetic now than in times past."

Randy Mitchell
Student Success Program

"We have three main objectives at the Student Success Program," Mitchell says. "We want to provide a better transition for students on the way in and out, to offer students the motivation to learn and take responsibility for themselves and make services more cohesive, putting essential functions together in one area," he says. "Our goal is to bring all of the programs together in close proximity to each other. The term we like to use is 'seamless.'"

Along with the advancement of university programs to facilitate the educational climate, faculty members urge students to make a concentrated effort to get involved.

"Students should take a look at themselves. They should passionately engage life," Oberst says. "College is a great time to test out different areas of involvement that can lead to things later in life."

Oberst tends to disagree with the assessment that student apathy is rising and involvement is lagging.

"We have seen more students interested in international education over the past three years than ever before," she said. "This year's freshman survey showed interest in 44 percent of respondents compared with 35 percent in 1995."

Mitchell stresses the importance of holding society to the same litmus test.

"People can be better too; it's not just students," he says. "It's a societal reflection."

Apathy, it's a commonplace buzz word, but what does it mean? The topic is a conversation piece for many Americans. The Washington Post runs an article yearly publishing the results of an ongoing survey concerning student apathy. And almost
Apathy, Schmapathy

Or, simple truths to beguile UCLA researchers: We're not lazy. College just isn't that difficult. Besides, we choose to apply our gifts sparingly. Some of us even vote.

By CHRIS KLIMEK and JULIAN WALKER

**The Questionnaire**

---

**Do you think recent incoming JMU students are, in general, more apathetic?**

- Yes: 47%
- No: 39%
- Don't know: 14%

---

**Do you think there is a trend toward apathetic behavior in students nationwide?**

- Yes: 68%
- No: 25%
- Don't know: 7%

---

**Students surveyed:**

- Class:
  - freshmen: 18%
  - sophomores: 27%
  - juniors: 32%
  - seniors: 23%

- Area:
  - A-S/Music/Duke: 37%
  - Quad/Bluestone: 21%
  - Commons/Village: 21%
  - Zane Showker/CISAT: 21%

---

**Between Classes and the Water Polo Club.**

"I'm busy, but I'm not killing myself on three hours of sleep a night or whatever," she says. "I try to keep busy because it forces me to organize my time."

Stites seems almost unique among students in that she claims to be politically active, or at least aware. She doesn't read a newspaper regularly, but she did vote in the last presidential election. She describes herself as "a very liberal person," intensely concerned with abortion rights and women's issues.

"Politics don't account for a lot of my time, but it takes up a lot of my thoughts," she says.

"I wear sweatpants all the time because I've given up," his housemates cheer for a few seconds before returning their attention to their video game.
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UR tangles JMU women in CAA play

by Keith Feigenbaum

It was just one of those games. The kind where records and past performances are thrown out the window. Regardless of any adjustments a coach makes, no matter whether each player leaves every bit of energy and emotion on the court, fate lies only with the whims of the opponent. Tuesday night was such an experience for JMU’s women’s basketball team, as the University of Richmond turned the Convocation Center into its personal playground, defeating the Dukes (13-9, 7-5 CAA), 83-64.

Then, it was the Spiders’ standout guard Jennifer Meade (second leading scorer in the CAA at 18.6 ppg) who reversed momentum for the Dukes, these shooting percentages told the story: 56.4 percent from the field, 41.7 percent from three point range and 84.2 percent from the free-throw line. With those numbers, you can’t go wrong, underdog or not. “They hit every shot they took,” said Childers, hardly exaggerating. “They hit some incredible jump shots... and they had much more energy than us. We were the fat cats tonight and a wounded dog [Richmond] is hard to beat.”

Lost in the revellry of Richmond’s shooting clinic Tuesday night was the continued steady play of JMU junior forward Kish Jordan, whose intensity and effort are unwavering. Jordan scored 14 points on six of 11 shooting, and added a team-high seven rebounds — a testament to her scrappy, hard-nosed work under the basket.

Combined with the team and career high 24-point performance of freshman guard Becky Wollenberg, who may have had more energy than us. We were the fat cats tonight and a wounded dog [Richmond] is hard to beat.

Jordan summed-up the Dukes performance. “We simply put the ball in the basket. Against the Dukes, these shooting percentages told the story: 56.4 percent from the field, 41.7 percent from three point range and 84.2 percent from the free-throw line. With those numbers, you can’t go wrong, underdog or not. “They hit every shot they took,” said Childers, hardly exaggerating. “They hit some incredible jump shots... and they had much more energy than us. We were the fat cats tonight and a wounded dog [Richmond] is hard to beat.”

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Combined with the team and career high 24-point performance of freshman guard Becky Wollenberg, who may have had more energy than us. We were the fat cats tonight and a wounded dog [Richmond] is hard to beat.

Early in the game, it was actually the Spiders’ stingy defense which caused the Dukes problems. Richmond’s half-court traps allowed it to take a 4-0 lead three minutes into the contest, as the Dukes called a timeout to regroup and address the traps. Following the timeout, Richmond continued to put the heat on the Dukes, going on a 7-0 run to establish a 21-9 lead at 9:37.

Then the going got ugly for JMU, as two free throws by the Spiders’ Mandy Hester (18 points) at the six-minute mark extended the deficit to 34-17. Though the Dukes battled back and appeared they would enter halftime down a respectable 13 points, however, the Spiders pushed the lead to 61-41 at 9:47 on a Michelle Florin three-pointer.

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JMU Baseball '98

by Dan Sullivan
staff writer

The recently shaved heads of all of the first-year players aren't the only noticeable changes on the JMU baseball team.

There's new-found excitement among the players, thanks to Joe "Spanky" McFarland's arrival as head coach. The new atmosphere surrounding his arrival certainly hasn't gone unnoticed. Although the Dukes have yet to play their first game, the players feel rejuvenated. Just ask a few of them.

"I like him a lot," said red-shirt junior Aaron Sams. "He obviously knows baseball. He has books on pitching. [McFarland] is an all around good guy on and off the field. There's definitely more enthusiasm among the team."

Tim Hughes, a sophomore transfer, said, "I love him. He's not arrogant. He is just here to coach baseball, and he enjoys it. His players respond to that, and it creates one of the best atmospheres I've ever been a part of."

Kevin Razler, a junior center fielder, said he feels the improved atmosphere will only help the team during the upcoming season. "I think everything is more relaxed," Razler said. "We're having a good time, but we're still getting things done. We don't have to worry about last year's coach Kevin Anderson getting off our backs. It's all about working hard and having a good time."

This new attitude can only help the Dukes get off to a strong start. With that said, let's look at a breakdown of this year's team.

McFarland inherits a squad that went 31-26 last year and 10-10 in the CAA. While the pitching staff is young and inexperienced, the offense possesses good speed and looks like it will score a lot of runs. Home runs may be a little on the down side, but the Dukes have several hitters who could hit five-to-ten.

Pitching

This is the big question mark for the Dukes. Can the arms give JMU a chance to win games? Almost 65 percent of the starters from last year are gone. McFarland plans on using a four-man rotation. The ace of the staff will be red-shirt junior left-hander Aaron Sams. His 68.2 innings pitched were second on the team to Travis Harper's 88.1, a third round pick of the Boston Red Sox.

Following Sams in the rotation will be senior Greg White (who will also serve as the designated hitter when he isn't on the mound), sophomore Blair DeHardt (1-0, 9.33) and sophomore Nick Herr (2-5, 7.99). This will be the first year when White will be expected to contribute significantly as a pitcher. Drafted last spring as a first baseman by the New York Mets, White has only thrown 12 2/3 innings in his college career.

Tim Hughes, a sophomore transfer from Duke University, freshman Curtis Smith and freshman Wesley Hughes lead a group of five newcomers. "We have three good freshman players," McFarland said. "We need to get them out in some game situations because they all have lots of ability."

The bullpen will be anchored by sophomore Nick James and red-shirt junior Ryan New. James could also be used as a spot-starter, in middle relief or as the closer. New is a sidearmer, which makes him a candidate for the closer role as well.

Infield

Senior Corey Hoch will start the season at first base. Hoch is a man of many positions, as he started at both shortstop and third base during his sophomore and junior years. And because of an injury to catcher Bob Smoker, Hoch also saw considerable time behind the plate last spring.

Now McFarland will ask his tri-captain to handle the job as the first bagger. Hoch is the ultimate team player," McFarland said.

To Hoch's right will be fleet-footed T. Riley. He only started 17 games in '97 and must fill the shoes of last year's starter, Rusty Lowery, who the team lost to graduation.

Nate Turner will be the shortstop. Turner also saw some time at third base last year and put up some impressive offensive numbers for a first-year starter (.319 BA, 6 HR, 40 RBI). Sophomore Eric Bender (.307, 1 HR, 19 RBI) was the opening day starter at third base a year ago and will try to add to a successful freshman campaign. The catching duties will fall to red-shirt junior Bob Smoker (.305, 4 HR, 12 RBI). He has been limited to just 25 games over the last two seasons because of injury. Backing him up will be highly touted Ben Golden, a freshman from Pennsylvania.

Outfield

The Dukes have a first-team CAA performer in Kevin Razler (.358, 10 HR, 52 RBI), arguably the best center fielder in the conference. Razler led the team in home runs a year ago with 10 and was second on the team in stolen bases with 14. Razler also has an excellent throwing arm and a fine eye at the plate. His .411 on-base percentage will make it difficult for McFarland not to lead him off. But Razler's gap power also makes him a prime candidate for the middle of the lineup. Razler split time last year at the top of the order and in the third spot.

Senior tri-captain Chad Hartman (.316, 6 HR, 40 RBI) will start in left field. Hartman has worked his way into the starting lineup after making the squad as a walk-on in 1994. As of now, there isn't a definite starter in right field, but the duties will fall most likely to freshman Rich Thompson. Jay Cotter and Bryan Johnson are also fighting for playing time.

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One last piece of the puzzle will be senior Greg White, a sure-fire professional prospect who led the team in hitting a year ago (.372, 9 HR, 51 RBI). His .619 slugging percentage also led the team. Combine his impressive numbers with his pitching capabilities and White may be one of the best two-way performers in the country.

Look for the Dukes to take advantage of their team speed. Razler, White and Hoch are the offensive leaders, and none of them are considered home-run hitters. But JMU led the conference in hitting a year ago (.320) and will play smart baseball. If the pitching comes through, the Dukes will compete for the CAA title.

"Pitching is our question mark, because we have a lot of young guys," White said. "But there should be enough mixture there [along with the offense] to accomplish what we want to."
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**Spunky**

First-year coach Joe "Spunky" McFarland is the Dukes' new skipper. The Breeze's Mike Gesario sat down with Spunky to get the true scoop.

A new and exciting era of JMU baseball will begin Saturday as the Diamond Dukes suit up for an opening day double-header against the Vikings of Cleveland State University. Leading the Dukes into this next era will be new head coach Joe "Spanky" McFarland.

McFarland brings with him a style that is foreign to JMU and to the CAA. Offensively, his style is comparable to that of Phil Garner of the Milwaukee Brewers. McFarland, like Garner, believes in being aggressive and making things happen. He likes to hit and run, steal and execute safety squeezes.

"Offensively, I like to run and put pressure on the other team and try to force them to make errors," he said. "My whole strategy on offense and defense is really dictated by the extra base. Extra bases means being aggressive. We are going to run a lot. We have really been working hard on base running, which is something they haven't really done here. We like to create some excitement," McFarland said.

"I am not a very patient guy. I don't like to sit back and watch a three-run homer. I am not Earl Weaver. We won't sit back, we'll make things happen."

This style may turn out to be perfect for the Dukes, as they have no real home run threat. Rather, the Dukes will have to rely on aggressive base running and sound defense.

Junior infielder Nate Turner said, "We have the personnel to do what he wants us to do. It fits us well. It well help us out a lot."

McFarland's approach to coaching pitchers speaks for itself. McFarland has written two books on the subject. His book titled *Coaching Pitchers* has a foreword by Kevin Brown of the San Diego Padres, who worked under McFarland at Georgia Tech.

"I was able to foresee that [Brown] was going to be good and I worked hard with him," McFarland said. "But, he could have went anywhere. It's not like I taught him to throw the 95 mile an hour sinker," said the modest McFarland. "I have always felt that you help them all whether they're number one or number 12 on your staff and just see what happens."

McFarland left his head-coaching job at Northern Illinois University to assume his current position at JMU. Previously he worked as assistant coach at South Florida, Georgia Tech, Florida State and Appalachian State, and as the head coach at Kellogg Community College.

"I can guarantee you that it is going to be fun," he said. "If you go to watch us play, you will be entertained."

Taken at face value, McFarland's overall record of 143-211-1 at Northern Illinois is hardly spectacular. However, it is good enough to make McFarland the winningest coach at NIU's baseball history.

He was given the job after the program had been discontinued for nearly 10 years, meaning he not only had to worry about finding players but also raising funds and getting scholarships.

Still, McFarland took the team from the depths of the Midwestern Collegiate Conference in 1991 to the regular-season and tournament championships and NCAA play in 1996.

"It was taking too long for me to turn the corner up there," McFarland said. "But, in hindsight if you look at it, starting with absolutely nothing and then in six years going to the NCAA tournament, that's pretty good."

As a result of the slow progression of the program, lack of scholarships and a general lack of interest in collegiate baseball in the north, McFarland was ready for a change of scenery. Ironically, McFarland and his wife had already discussed the idea of coming to Virginia.

"It's really funny," he said. "We always said that if we could pick anywhere in the country that we wanted to live, it would either be Virginia or North Carolina. When [JMU] called, I already knew the history of the program, and since it was where we wanted to live, it was pretty much a no-brainer," McFarland said.

McFarland inherits a unique situation at JMU. He arrived relatively late in the year after former head coach Kevin Anderson, who coached the team to a 31-26 record last season, left the Dukes amid a alleged controversy in September. The Dukes' roster is also full of question marks, as a dozen new players have joined the team. While the Dukes have five position players who started 50 or more games last season, only three others played in at least 25 games. Yet, despite the situation, McFarland remains very optimistic.

"The positives outweigh the negatives," he said. "It's a great bunch of guys. They are good kids. They take it serious. It's great to be back in this atmosphere again where baseball is considered a major sport, and the players are dedicated and committed to it."

It seems like the Dukes have taken a liking to McFarland as well.

Turner said, "I love him. He's a great guy and a great coach. He's very organized and everything runs smooth. The team is relaxed, and we are fundamentally sound."

As for McFarland, he is happy with what he has seen so far in his team. He equates the team to a wolf pack, whose strength lies within the group.

McFarland said, "It's a highly respected conference. From top to bottom it is pretty good, as all the rankings show. The publications have us picked third, fourth or fifth, and I'm sure that's based mostly on our reputation. If you listed the league's top 10 players, we may not have a guy on there. But, if you listed the league's top 30 players, we would have a lot of guys on that."

McFarland is taking a very business-like approach to his first season as the Dukes' skipper. He says the season is long and too many unexpected things can happen to get extraordinarily excited every day.

He believes a day-by-day approach to baseball is the best way to go.

"You have to work on the fundamentals and play the percentages," McFarland said. "If we can throw strikes, make the routine plays, put the bat on the ball and play in a consistent manner then we are going to have a good year. You don't get too up and you don't get too down. You just do your job."

Of course, that doesn't mean the Dukes aren't having fun. McFarland is a little more laid back in practice than he was during the game. Practice for the Dukes consists of some very unusual drills, such as sliding headfirst in the gym in Godwin Hall and diving in the mud on the field outside.

Buried within McFarland's approach to the game is his belief that a team must peak at the right time of the year.

"If we are an eight-cylinder car, the first weekend we will probably be clicking on six-cylinders, hopefully that's enough to get us 'Ws,'" he said. "When the conference play starts, hopefully, we will be working on seven cylinders. By the time the tournament gets here at the end of the season, we will be working on eight-cylinders and will be peaking at the right time."

The Dukes will begin the long journey toward the conference tournament on Saturday against Cleveland State University. McFarland asserts Saturday's game will kick off a memorable season.

"I can guarantee you that it is going to be fun," he said. "If you go to watch us play, you will be entertained."
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Sams leads core of inexperienced pitchers

by Gene Holson
contributing writer

The JMU baseball team led the CAA in hitting for the second straight year in 1997 but finished third in conference with a 10-10 record. The problem, simply put, was pitching.

The staff at the bottom of the CAA in ERA, (6.55) and hits allowed per game (2.10). Adding to the concern, the Dukes lost several pitchers due to the Major League draft, transfers and graduation.

These standout include Travis Harper and Tim Bouch, who accounted for more than 30 percent of the staff's innings last year.

With last season's struggles and the loss of several key pitchers, new head coach Joe "Spanky" McFarland and the Dukes have major questions about the staff that need to be answered.

"Going into opening day, the ace of the staff looks to be red-shirt junior Aaron Sams. The southpaw finished last season with a 6-5 record and a 4.98 ERA. "Aaron's going to be the number one guy," McFarland said. "He's got talent and experience."

In fact, Sams has pitched nearly twice as many innings as any of the other hurlers on the staff. Sams is using that experience to help lead the young staff.

"Aaron has shown that he is willing to take on a leadership role," McFarland said. "He works ethic, but it remains to be seen how they will perform between the lines."

The addition of McFarland should help the pitching staff immensely. McFarland is known in baseball circles as a pitching guru of sorts, having authored two books on the subject and coached several Major League.

White said, "He has changed the focus here. There's now more intensity, concentration and dedication."

JMU comes into the 1998 season having won at least 30 games four years straight.

With the addition of McFarland, a strong freshman class and a core group of returning stars, the Dukes hope to add to that streak.

There is little question that the team will score runs, but what remains to be seen is if the pitching staff can do its part.

"So far, it has been mostly positive," McFarland said. "They are physically talented and have an outstanding work ethic, but it remains to be seen how they will perform between the lines."

The Dukes face Cleveland State University Saturday.

Kevin is the Diamond Dukes' Razler and dazzler

by Courtney A. Crowley
senior writer

Out of all the center fielders in baseball history that Duke head coach Joe "Spanky" McFarland could have compared junior center fielder Kevin Razler to, he picked Lenny Dykstra. "Lenny is the rare combination of speed, strong arm and the ability to hit," Hartman said. "He can hit for average and power and he's the closest thing we have to a five-tool player."

Senior catcher Bob Smoker said, "I love playing with him. We get 100 percent from him everyday. He's always a deep threat and a threat to run bases."

Razler led the Dukes in five offensive categories in 1997. He had 10 home runs, 52 RBIs, 32 walks, 16 stolen bases and a .441 on-base percentage. And as if that wasn't good enough, Razler also found the time to rack up 77 hits, 52 runs and two triples. He batted .389 and slugged .581.

"Kevin has a great work ethic," Hartman said. "He works hard everyday."

"Razler is modest, too. Despite his 1997 season, he still sees facets of his game that he can improve upon. "The big thing is my hitting — I'm really streaky. I can be on for a week, week-and-a-half," he said. "But I'm very inconsistent — I need to be more consistent day in and day out.""

Baseball is a tough sport in which to be consistent, though, and streaks run both ways. Case in point: the Ducks' series against the University of Massachusetts last season. "It was one of the best hitting weekends of my life — I hit a couple of home runs," Razler said. "I was in a zone because anything they threw up there, I hit. It was the highlight of my season."

One thing about Razler that isn't inconsistent is his intensity. Smoker said, "He's a gamer and plays with intensity. He shows up for every game ready to play and works hard."

Razler to, he picked Lenny Dykstra. Seems like McFarland knows what he's talking about. You see, Dykstra is otherwise known as "Nails." Dykstra's known for playing center field with abandon — diving, sliding and running all over the outfield to make a play. Razler plays with the same gritty drive. In other words, he's tough as nails. "[In the outfield] I'm crazy out there, running into walls and stuff," Razler said.

McFarland said, "[Razler] gets after it — he's a coach's dream. He loves to get dirty and loves to work hard."

Left fielder Chad Hartman echoed McFarland's feelings. "Kevin has a great work ethic," Hartman said. "He works hard everyday."

"Razler said, "I'm not the kind of guy to put on my spikes and throw my glove on the field and rely on what I have. I go out and work and work as hard as I can to help the team."

Works hard. Gets dirty. One might make the hasty generalization that Razler is a player who has a great attitude but might not have any talent. But anyone who knows anything about JMU Baseball knows better.
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Razler continued from page 29

Razler said, "I have lots of fun, a big reason to play is to have fun. But if I strike out, I throw stuff. It's not pretty. The intensity helps keep me focused."

His is a quiet intensity, but as far as Razler's teammates and coach are concerned, it's more than just intensity; it's leadership both on and off the diamond.

Hartman said, "I play left field and we work well together. He takes charge of the outfield. He's not a real vocal guy. Basically he leads by example — everyone feeds off the example he sets — working hard in the weight room, in practice, whatever."

Again Razler prefers to deflect the praise for his on-field prowess. "I learned positioning according to counts and what hitters have previously done my whole life," he said. "All my coaches taught me — it's not really me, I give them all the credit."

McFarland said, "Leaders are born, not necessarily taught. He wants to be in there to get the big hit — he's a gap hitter, mostly to right-center. I hit for extra bases anytime I can."

Razler is looking to have a dynamic 1998 season; his goal is to bat .400 and hit 15 home runs. "But that's not my main concern," he said. "I want to help the team and go to the NCAA Regional [Tournament]. I've heard stories, but never experienced it. I heard it's a great atmosphere."

FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON:
The 1998 campaign begins Saturday as the Dukes host Cleveland State University for a Saturday doubleheader at Mauck Stadium. The Dukes never faced CSU in 1997.

Football continued from page 23

The Dukes also welcome the addition of four new transfers including Curtis Keaton, a former tail back for the Division I-A West Virginia Mountaineers. Keaton, who describes himself as a slasher, was last timed at 4.25 seconds in the forty-yard dash.

Quarterback John Borosky also from WVU, cornerback Tony Joe of Virginia Tech and defensive end Robert Garrison of Los Medanos College in California have also transferred to Madison over the off season.

On a positive note, James Madison free safety Tony Booth has been named a second-team Division I-AA All-American by the ESPN/USA Today Top 25 poll. Along with Booth's return, the Dukes hope to see middle linebacker Jason Parmer back on the field after being sidelined with a leg injury last season. Parmer started at middle linebacker as a red-shirt freshman two seasons ago.

McFarland has dedicated his winter to a strict conditioning and training schedule which includes four days of lifting and three running days.

About the importance of the off season Booth said, "It allows us to establish a foundation and develop focus upon communication. Hard work in the off season leads to greater mental toughness and team unity, which carries on throughout the entire year."

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**RECENT RECAP**

The United States won its first medal of the Nagano Olympics when Johnny Moseley finished first in the men's moguls. His time of 25.18 seconds was the fastest of the day and earned him a score of 26.93.

In other news, American skier Picabo Street took home the gold in the Women's Super-G in a race that ended with the top three skiers separated by a record seven-hundredths of a second.

Canadian snowboarder Ross Rebagliati, winner of his sport's first Olympic gold medal, will learn on Thursday whether a positive test for marijuana will strip him of the medal.

**THE DUKES BOUNCE BACK, BUT FALL SHORT AGAINST TRIBE, 53-52**

**Boozer hook-shot at buzzer just misses come-back**

*by Seth Barton*  
assistant sports editor

Sometimes in sports, there are moments where a team just has to play for pride. Last night's match-up with the College of William & Mary was just such an occasion for the Dukes.

After getting embarrassed 89-60 by the Tribe Jan. 14 at the Convocation, JMU had more than a fair share of revenge on their mind.

The Dukes did not get it however, losing 53-52 when senior center Lamont Boozer's heavily contested jump-hook shot fell off the rim at the buzzer.

At least this defeat was respectable, but as the Dukes fell to 7-15, there is no longer room for moral victories.

After facing a 26-21 half-time deficit, the Dukes charged back in the second half, leading by as much as five.

With 1:26 left in the game and JMU holding onto a 52-48 lead, W&M forward Bill Phillips tipped in a miss to bring the Tribe to within two.

The Dukes held the ball until junior point guard Ned Felton was called for an offensive foul as he drove to the basket with 44 seconds left.

Then it was time for more Tribe heroics, as W&M point guard and leading scorer Randy Bracy drained a three-pointer with 26.2 seconds left to give the Tribe the final 53-52 margin.

The Dukes would have two more chances to steal the game back, however.

Junior forward Eugene Atkinson missed a late shot but in the ensuing scramble the ball was knocked out of bounds by a Tribe player under the basket.

With 1.5 seconds left, the Dukes inbounded to Boozer in the lane, who fired off his errant hook shot despite heavy W&M defensive pressure.

Strickland, who has shown faint flashes of being the inside presence the Dukes desire, played strong last night.

Strickland controlled the boards, grabbing down a career-high 18 rebounds to go with his 11 points.

For the second straight game, Boozer played through his constant nagging injuries to score 13 points and snag eight rebounds.

Terrance Jennings led the way for the Tribe with 17 points, although he only scored three after half-time.

Bracy was the main Dukes killer, torching the JMU for six of the Tribe's last eight points. Bracy finished with 15 points, including six in the last 3:25.

Once again, the Dukes were not able to take advantage of a poor-shooting opponent, as both teams shot 38 percent from the floor.

The Dukes return home to the Convocation Center Saturday where they face Virginia Commonwealth University at 7:30 p.m.
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