Registration woes hit students

Several departments don't have faculty to support class demands

MARcia APPerson
staff writer

"I'm sorry, that class is full." What student hasn't experienced the frustration that comes with these six little words? Unfortunately, good news isn't on the horizon for students in some departments.

Several departments don't have enough faculty and classrooms to handle the number of students in their programs, said George Johnson, director of the school of media arts and design.

Psychology majors had a very difficult time getting into classes for spring semester, said Michael Stoloff, coordinator of undergraduate psychology program. More than 1,000 students are majoring in psychology, making it the largest department on campus, he said.

"It was a very global problem," Stoloff said. "You couldn't pick any class because there was literally nothing to pick from."

The problems in the psychology department began with the 300- and 400-level courses. Seniors must take capstone courses and 400-level electives. These required classes were closed before the seniors even finished registering, Stoloff said.

The problem continued with juniors because their classes were filled by seniors.

Freshman psychology major Cristin Conway said she didn't have many problems signing up for classes. She registered on Wednesday and by Thursday had the classes she wanted.

"A lot of my friends are having problems," Conway said. "As for me, maybe I got lucky...I think it depends on what classes you are taking."

Conway said it didn't take long to get into the calculus and statistics classes she needed for prerequisites.

"I got e-mails about it [problems with psychology classes being full]," Conway said. "There seems to be a lot of problems, but I haven't needed any of those classes."

Conway said she will probably still be taking General Education classes as a senior.

"I don't mind at all," Conway said. "I'm just glad I got my schedule set up for next semester."

Stoloff said the immediate solution was the addition of seven more upper level classes with additional sections. Students will be able to sign up for these sections during the course adjustment period starting Monday, Stoloff said.

Seniors were allowed to sign up for these sections so they will definitely be able to graduate on time, Stoloff said.

Overpopulated departments will work with students to make sure they can graduate.

"Most departments are willing to work with graduating seniors," University Registrar Sherry Hood said. "I've never seen that fail."

But this fix is only temporary. Stoloff said the problem will continue next year because psychology will have 50 more seniors than they have now.

"The problem will be continuing for us next year," Stoloff said.

In the long run, the psychology department will work with the administration that comes with these six little words?

see PROBLEMS page 9

JMU's 'gotta have it,' receives Lee warmly

GINa MONTEFUSCO
assistant news editor

Spike Lee may be one of the most influential filmmakers of his time, but he hasn't forgotten the years he struggled before finding fame.

"There is no such thing as overnight success," Lee said to an audience of about 850 Thursday night in Wilson Hall auditorium.

"Most filmmakers decided at a very young age what they wanted to do," Lee said. "I thought I'd play second base for the New York Mets, but genetics conspired against me."

Lee spent the majority of his presentation discussing his childhood, college career and earliest works rather than his more recent successes.

Growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., "I had no idea how people made films," Lee said. "My friends and I sat through as many matinee movies as we could before our parents dragged us out."

As a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Lee said he still didn't know what he wanted to do with his life. During the second semester of his sophomore year, the academic dean pulled Lee aside and told him he'd used up all his electives and that he had to choose a major.

"That summer, the summer of 1977, I bought a camera and spent the whole summer just documenting stuff in New York," Lee said.

When he returned to school, Lee declared a mass communications major. After graduation, he applied to film schools to learn film grammar and the specifics of film making. His GRE scores kept him out of schools on the west coast, but New York University's film school accepted him. Unlike other schools that relied heavily on standardized test scores, NYU emphasized the creative portfolio, Lee said.

"The only way you can become a filmmaker is to make films," Lee said. "I spent very little time in the classroom at NYU."

After his thesis film won the Student Academy Award in 1982, Lee said he felt he was well on his way.

"I thought I had it made," he said. "I just knew the phone would be ringing off the hook the minute I got back from the awards ceremony in Los Angeles to my little studio apartment."

The phone calls didn't come as expected, and Lee watched his less-qualified classmates get jobs while he waited for something to happen.
POUCE100
see page 9 for classifieds

STEVEN LANDRY
police reporter
Campus police report the following:

Underage Possession of Alcohol
• Amanda N. Haexter, 19, of Richmond, was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol on Nov. 20 at 12:15 a.m. in G-lot.
• Allison P. McCrary, 20, of Salem, was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol on Nov. 17 between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. in the Convocation Center during the MTV Campus Invasion concert.
• Lindsay M. Marti, 19, of Townsend, Mass., was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol on Nov. 17 between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. in the Convocation Center during the MTV Campus Invasion concert.

Possession of Fictitious Operator's License
• Allison P. McCrarry, 20, of Salem, was arrested and charged with possession of a fictitious operator's license on Nov. 17 between 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. in the Convocation Center during the MTV Campus Invasion concert.

Underage Consumption of Alcohol
• Three JMU students were judicially charged with underage consumption of alcohol on Nov. 20 at 12:50 p.m. after exiting the "Party Line" bus.

Grand Larceny
• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a wallet from an unsecured locker in UREC on Nov. 17 between 3:10 end 4 p.m.

see POLICE LOG page 9

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Mailing address: The Breeze
GI Anhony-Seeger Hall
MSC 869
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807
Phone: (540) 568-3137
Fax: (540) 568-6736
E-Mail address: the.breeze@jmu.edu
Breeze Net: http://thebreeze.jmu.edu

Section phone numbers
Opinion/Style: x3846
News: x6699
Focus: x6729
Sports/Graphics: x6709
Photo: x5470
General Manager
Cheryl Floyd, x6864
Bookkeeper
Susan Shifflett, x6869

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WEATHER

TUESDAY: Sunny, high 57°F, low 38°F.
WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy, high 54°F, low 33°F.
THURSDAY: Showers, high 48°F, low 34°F.
FRIDAY: Sunny, high 52°F, low 24°F.

CLASSIFIEDS

How to place a classified: Come to The Breeze office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Cost: $2.50 for the first 10 words; $2 for each additional 10 words; boxed classified, $10 per column inch.
Deadlines: noon Friday for Monday issue, noon Tuesday for Thursday issue.
Classifieds must be paid in advance in The Breeze office.
**DNA links student to sister's death**

**ELLEN SOROKIN**
*The Fairfax Journal*

A bloodstain on a JMU student's jeans matches the DNA profile of his sister, who was found slain in the Burke family's burning home on Thanksgiving morning three years ago, court documents say.

But Matthew Harper has told police he didn't know the stain was blood or how it got on his jeans.

The likelihood of two people having DNA the same as that found on the jeans is in one 300 million in the Caucasian population, the analysis shows.

Another forensic scientist found that several foot impressions taken from Matthew Harper in October 1997 would not eliminate him as the one who left foot impressions in a pair of shoes found in a creek in December 1996 near the Harpers' home, according to a second certificate of analysis filed in the case. Police said in court filings that the shoes belonged to Harper.

Two months ago, police arrested and charged Matthew Harper, now 21, with the Nov. 23, 1995, murder of his sister and the attempted murder of his mother, Elizabeth F. Harper.

Police also charged him with malicious burning of a dwelling.

Matthew Harper's attorney, Arthur Schwartzstein, did not return a telephone call seeking comment on this story.

Stephen W. Grafman, who represented the family for several years, withdrew from the case earlier this month.

Shortly after his arrest, he was released on $20,000 bond and has returned to school.

Documents in the court's case file made public following Matthew Harper's arrest contain previously unreleased information about the crime and investigation.

Police said they believe Matthew Harper set fire to his family's home, then at 10985 Ryers Place, after killing his sister.

Anne Harper's burned body was found inside the front door after a fire tore through the house. She was 20 at the time of her death.

An autopsy report shows Anne Harper died of a stab wound to the abdomen. She also suffered a laceration to the scalp and extensive, severe burns. Court records show authorities said Anne Harper died before the fire by "violent means." According to records in the case file, Anne Harper's DNA was found on a...
Student faces Jan. murder trial

**STUDENT, from page 3**

rolling pin, the foyer floor, the exterior storm door and on Matthew Harper's jeans.

The likelihood of an unrelated person having the same DNA found on the rolling pin would be one in 16,000 in the Caucasian population, court records show.

The Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office determined the fire had been set intentionally and an accelerant used.

From the beginning, Matthew Harper has denied any involvement in both his sister's slaying and the fire.

In an interview with police after the slaying, Matthew Harper described his relationship with Anne as a "real strong camaraderie, a friendship [that went] beyond siblingship," according to a police transcript of the interview included in the case file.

Matthew Harper told police he and Anne hung out at least once a week at a coffee shop when they were both at school in southwestern Virginia, according to the transcript.

Matthew Harper attended Virginia Tech in Blacksburg before transferring to JMU; Anne Harper attended Hollins College in Roanoke before her death.

"The two of us were really good friends," Matthew Harper told police. "No fighting, no arguing. I have never seen Matt fight, never seen Anne fight. I have never met a brother and sister that didn't fight every now and then. On the whole the three of us [Matthew, Anne and their mother] are a lot closer than almost any family I have ever known, especially my sister and I."

But several entries in Anne's diary, included in the case file, paint a different picture of her relationship with her brother. "Why does Matt make life so hard?" she once wrote after watching a movie with him.

She also complained about Matthew not respecting others. In 1992, she described a flirt between Matthew and her mother. "Matt punched a hole in the wall and cracked a door. Scary..."

On the night his sister was killed, Matthew Harper told police he went out to dinner with Anne and several of their friends and then dropped them off at the family home. He told police he came back to his house to fix himself some tea and to take his contacts out. He told police he knew a bacterial lung infection from which he has been suffering from 4pm-Midnight

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Dr. Solonge Lopes, School of Education

**Approximate Program Cost:**
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- ENG 380 Italian Cinema
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- GPSY 160 Lifespan Human Development
- PSYC 290 Readings & Research in Cross-Cultural Psychology

**Approximate Program Cost:**
In-State: $3700 for 9 credit hours
Out-of-State: $5100 for 9 credit hours

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Phone books available

Students, faculty express frustration over delay

ANGELA HAIN
staff writer

One month and several frustrations later, nearly 15,000 phone directories were distributed Friday.

The phone directory is usually completed and distributed by the second or third week in October, said Carol Kefalas, assistant vice president for institutional relations and marketing.

The distribution of the permanent phone directory was delayed this year due to several changes in administrative positions and office locations, university officials said.

"Knowing the changes were occurring, it wouldn't have made sense to put out a directory that was outdated before it even came out," Kefalas said. "We were asked to delay printing by the president's office."

Changes on campus include the conversion of Wilson Hall from an administrative office building to the Wilson Learning Center, which caused most of Wilson's offices to move to new office locations.

Mail stop codes, the numbers Postal Services uses to locate offices, also change when offices change, Kefalas said.

Mail stop codes are included in the phone directory.

The phone book delay has made it more difficult for faculty to get in touch with students.

"It has been inconvenient not to have the permanent phone directory because at times we have to call students to pick up forms, and it takes longer to find a way to contact them without a complete phone directory," Mary Ann Abbott, secretary in the political science department, said.

"Students have also expressed difficulty locating faculty without the permanent directory," Professor of Anthropology Clarence Geier (I) and his assistant, Bill Dewan, discuss a project that unearthed part of a Civil War fort.

JMUers unearth Civil War fort

KATIE LUDWIG
contributing writer

Unknown to many, a virtually undisturbed Civil War fort nearly three-quarters of a mile in length has emerged from beneath the leaves and overgrowth of the George Washington National Forest, only a 45 minute drive away, thanks to a JMU project.

"The uniqueness of Fort Edward Johnson lies partly in its size, complexity and relatively pristine condition," said Clarence Geier, professor of anthropology and faculty leader of the survey.

"What is also unique is that it was constructed, occupied and abandoned all in a 19-day period," Geier said.

More than 35,000 Confederate infantrymen were to be supported by the fort with the intention of staying for an extended period, but a false alarm caused it to be abandoned on April 19, 1862, Geier said.

"The fort has been known about for a long time," Geier said. "But it has never been totally surveyed or documented. The camps and roads have never been clearly placed."

One reason for this is the fort has never been threatened and had not been a major priority, Geier said.

Interest in the fort has renewed because of the opportunity to draw tourism to Augusta and Highland counties, which are south of Harrisonburg, Geier said.

"The camp will be protected and managed and interpreted for the public who are interested in it," Geier said.

The survey will not excavate the entire camp, which is about three miles long, Geier said.

"We are looking at a couple of key areas and getting a better understanding of the whole fort from them," Geier said.

The survey also gives JMU archeology students the experience they will need to enter the field, Geier said.

This allows students to learn how to survey, and how to go in and do preliminary studies, Geier said.

"We cannot do this without people," Geier said.

"We have access to the students and get them involved," he said. "If they weren't active and trained in different levels we could never do the work."

Bill Dewan, a junior

Student athletes, coaches and sports information directors at 79 schools across the country completed the survey before the directory was distributed.

"They are trying to learn enough to be able to do it themselves," Geier said.

The survey will not excavate the entire fort. Rather, it will collect information on the key areas and get a better understanding of the whole fort, Geier said.

"We are trying to learn enough to be able to do it ourselves," Geier said.

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Bill Dewan, a junior

Duke female loses fight to play football

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

DURHAM, N.C. — A federal judge has kicked out of court a suit filed against Duke University by a student wanting to become the first woman in the nation to play Division I football.

Heather Sue Mercer, a place kicker who graduated in May, sued the university and head football coach Fred Goldsmith in 1997, alleging she was kept off the team because of her gender.

She claimed her dismissal was in violation of Title IX, which prohibits sex discrimination at institutions receiving public funds.

Mercer sought compensatory and punitive damages collected, among other things, during a preseason scrimmage in 1995. Goldsmith told reporters the same, but later said he had spoken too hastily.

A local newspaper reported that Mercer has indicated she would appeal the ruling.

The phone book delay has made it more difficult for faculty to get in touch with students.

"It has been inconvenient not to have the permanent phone directory because at times we have to call students to pick up forms, and it takes longer to find a way to contact them without a complete phone directory."

Rosa Turner, secretary for the Health Sciences department, said, "I didn't find it too hard to find student phone numbers without the permanent directory because I usually find information using the student information system on the computer."

Even though Turner said access to student information was never really a pressing problem, she said the directory will aid a great deal in accessing student information.

"I couldn't do without them," Turner said.

University Directories prints the directory for the university and ships them out from North Carolina, Kefalas said.

"There was the temporary directory for students," Kefalas said. "We are one of the few institutions in the nation that cares enough to put out preliminary information."

Students said they're relieved the phone directories were distributed Friday.

Sophomore Gina Bailey said, "I live off campus and it has been a pain for people to find my number."

"Students can't obtain phone numbers any other way besides the phone book so I think the permanent directory will make contacting people less annoying," she added.
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• Interested? Call Dr. Miles at x3044 or Dr. Cashman at x8771

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• ISAT 480- Information and Knowledge Management Issues
• Anticipated costs: In-state Tuition-$414; Out-of-state Tuition-$1326; Books, food, housing, transportation, etc-$1500
• Interested? Call or email Bruce Clemens- x8770 or clemensbw@jmu.edu

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Clinton ignores hearings

JOHN F. HARRIS
The Washington Post

SEOUl, South Korea, Nov. 21 — President Clinton Saturday said he has already punished himself in the Monica S. Lewinsky affair and called on Congress to "get beyond the partisanship" as the House decides whether to impeach him. In his first extensive comments since independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr testified Thursday to the House Judiciary Committee, Clinton also took obvious satisfaction in Starr’s revelation that he found no impeachable offenses in his investigation of allegations of perjury and obstruction of justice.

This is the official line this week on Clinton’s trip: The president is far too immersed in important Asian economic and security issues to give more than "I think the less I say about what should happen to me at this point, the better."

Bill Clinton

president

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart insisted that he clicked right past the hearing in favor of a channel featuring Japanese sumo wrestling.

"I don't believe that the long-awaited acknowledgement that there was nothing on which to proceed in this travel issue, this file issue and Whitewater, which this whole matter was supposed to be about, was a positive thing," he said.

Clinton's tone was in keeping with Japan and South Korea: He portrayed the imminent fracas back in Washington.

At the airport in Tokyo on Friday night, before Air Force One departed for South Korea, aides suddenly summoned the small pool of reporters that on the road stays constantly by Clinton's side to let them know that he wanted to take a question — knowing full well the question would be about the hearing.

"I haven’t been there. I haven’t been involved in it. I don’t know what they’re saying, and we’ll just have to see what they say," Clinton said.

Clinton said he was vaguely aware beforehand of the line of questioning his attorney, David E. Kendall, planned to take at the hearing, accusing Starr of prosecutorial misconduct.

He expressed astonishment that another of his private attorneys, Robert S. Bennett, had been subpoenaed by the House Judiciary Committee, along with White House deputy counsel and close friend Bruce R. Lindsey.

While aides often used to bristle at the idea that reporters would ask scandal-related questions while Clinton was overseas, many of them have concluded that the image of a popular president performing his job abroad is an effective contrast to the reports on what polls show is an unpopular impeachment proceeding.

In response to a question about whether Congress should punish him, Clinton said: "There has been a lot of suffering that is different from punishment, although it is hard to see the difference some times when you’re going through it. For me, this long ago ceased to be a political issue or a legal issue and became a personal one, and every day I do my best to put it behind me personally."

At the news conference he added: "It is simply not appropriate at this time for me to comment on what the Congress should do. I trust the American people and hope Congress will do the right thing in a non-partisan way to get beyond the partisanship and move on. I think the less I say about what should happen to me at this point, the better."

Relations
with Iraq

ELIZABETH SHOGREN
Los Angeles Times

SEOUl, South Korea — After teetering on the brink of military action against Iraq a week ago, President Clinton on Saturday articulated a wait-and-see approach in response to the first indication that Baghdad is not fully complying with the wishes of U.N. weapons inspectors.

Last weekend — with a massive U.S. missile attack already ordered by Clinton — Iraq balked and unambiguously pledged to allow U.N. weapons inspectors "involuntary" inspection rights to ensure that Iraq develops no weapons of mass destruction.

The White House made it clear that it remained poised to use force if Iraq again thwarted the inspectors.

Last week, Richard Butler, the chief inspector for the United Nations Special Commission, or UNSCOM, sent three letters to Baghdad requesting documents to help inspectors do their work. The Iraqi response was inadequate, UNSCOM said.

The White House did stress that Iraq must satisfy the inspector’s requests.

This requirement was made by the United Nations as a condition to stopping the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Honduras program adapts for hurricane

TARA HAFFER
staff writer

Hurricane Mitch, though it only touched land in Central America, now has more far reaching effects.

JMU’s semester in Honduras is currently modifying its program to accommodate the massive damage done by the storm.

Project coordinators Patricia Brevard and Marcia Ball have been taking JMU students to Honduras for 10 days during May session for the past five years.

Before the hurricane, students would conduct medical clinics with Honduran doctors, live with Honduran families, conduct health fairs, educate children on sanitation and provide in-service training for professionals, Brevard said.

Brevard said that the hurricane has done little to change the goals of the trip. These goals include conducting a medical clinic and health fair, completing door to door surveys and educating residents on sanitation techniques.

Brevard said that the main change this year will be the large amount of rebuilding the group could possibly be doing. Rebuilding will include the construction of medical clinics, homes, roads and bridges, she said.

Junior Nicole Sonsini said of her trip two years ago, "I went to Honduras my freshman year. It was a bit of a culture shock at first, but I learned so much in such a short amount of time. I am a political major and I couldn't have received a better form of education."

Although Hurricane Mitch has recently caused the destruction of millions of homes and the loss of thousands of lives, the group still plans to complete its 10-day trip to Honduras this May, Brevard said.

Brevard said the flooding in the area was so bad that millions of mudslides have swept through the area. These mudslides wiped out entire villages and killed hundreds.

The mudslides have also unearthed land mines which were buried beneath the surface during World War II and are now being washed down to heavily populated cities.

Villages throughout the area have also begun to erupt, adding to the devastation and loss in the area.

"Between the mudslides, volcanoes and land mines, everyone has lost someone," Brevard said. Many families have lost several loved ones, leaving many orphans and widows. Brevard said their main contact areas, San Pedros Sula and Pinelejo village, suffered damage but are still in existence, unlike other villages. The group will determine which areas are safe enough to reside in within the next few weeks, Brevard said.

The destruction caused by the hurricane will change the type of work that the group carries out. Many villages are completely without food and water and lack the manpower to rebuild the irrigation systems and crops, Brevard said.

Bridges and roads throughout the area have been completely destroyed, making it impossible to get from one area to another in many situations.

"It's as if they have been put back to ground zero. We're going to be doing a lot of rebuilding this year in addition to the education and teaching," Brevard said.

The flooding has caused severe malnutrition and disease throughout the area and water-borne diseases have polluted the water supply and killed thousands of people, Brevard said.

Many families are living in complete poverty, with barely enough food and water to survive. Massive efforts to rebuild the area have recently been taking place, she added.

"The area rebuilds so much faster than we do," Brevard said. "Although families are living in complete poverty they are still willing to give to us and make us stay as comfortable as possible. It's hard work for students but it helps the community so much. You can never experience such appreciation as you do in Honduras."
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Problems abound for students who want classes

**STUDENTS from page 1**

"It's a very different climate now for African Americans," Lee said.

"Back then, there was no such thing as black independent cinema."

Lee's first attempt at an independent film failed after producers didn't come through. His second attempt, "She's Gotta Have It," was filmed in 12 days in July 1988 on a shoestring budget, Lee said.

"We saved bottles and cans for the five cents deposit and bought two extra rolls of film with the money," Lee said.

The movie ended up costing $175,000, but made $8.5 million in the box office. Lee kept creative control throughout the movie and still holds the right to final cut in his name.

With 12 films in 13 years under his belt, Lee reflected on his choice of career. "I say a prayer every night because I get paid a lot of money doing what I like to do," Lee said.

Szymczak said she had her adviser help her sign up for classes. She wanted to take all GenEd classes in the spring, but she wasn't able to get into five GenEd classes. "Right now I can't even get into those," Szymczak said. "I only have four classes."

Szymczak said the computers weren't even right. The schedule would say a class was open but then when she called in the recorded voice said the class was full.

Szymczak said she thinks enough classes aren't being offered. "They didn't do a good job organizing," she said. "I am completely stuck. Now I have to go to summer school or a local community college."
EDITORIAL

SGA can’t wage this fight alone

The Student Government Association passed a bill of opinion Tuesday stating Martin Luther King Jr. Day should be observed as a university holiday.

SGA’s move was positive, and it probably reflects the sentiment of most members of the JMU community.

Unfortunately, SGA doesn’t have the power to enact such a change by itself; only with the support of students and faculty can we see this necessary change through.

Students and faculty always argue about which holidays JMU should observe. Sometimes, even when the university does give us a day off, we complain about the day it falls on — like this semester’s fall break being on a Friday instead of a Monday.

It’s human nature to want off from school for some holiday — any holiday. But that’s not the case in this instance.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is one holiday worth fighting for.

“Martin Luther King Jr. Day is one holiday worth fighting for.”

The office of the vice president for student affairs is for — to listen to and try to cater to students’ needs. The administration can’t read our minds; we have to let them know how we feel about this issue.

The SGA has done all it can. Without the support of its constituents (namely, students) and faculty, this bill will amount to nothing but a repeat of last year’s SGA bill of opinion on this topic, which had no impact on the administration.

As a last resort — and only if the prior means aren’t effective — celebrate Dr. King’s accomplishments on the university’s time.

Just because JMU won’t give Dr. King the recognition he deserves, doesn’t mean you shouldn’t either. If taking off from class is eyes, doesn’t mean you shouldn’t take off from doing the things you feel passionate enough about for the man and the revolutionary and honorable changes he spearheaded three decades ago.

If you sincerely feel Dr. King’s accomplishments and ideas are ones worth recognizing at JMU, do something about it! Stop complaining about the need of more interesting guest speakers, but they need more publicity.”

“I’m definitely satisfied with the guest speakers. I think they represent a variety of views in the community.”

“There are too many speakers from Jersey. We need to represent other areas, the south being one.”

“I don’t go to all of the speakers, but it seems to me that there are a variety and events to promote them at JMU.”
Democratic agenda common-sense

Upon reading Bill Butterfield's column in the Nov. 19 issue of The Breeze, I was surprised to read points where I find myself in agreement with Mr. Butterfield. For example, he makes a valid point when he says, "Election Day was a disaster for Republicans." He is equally truthful when he says, "The reason Republicans did poorly in the midterm elections this year is simply because they failed to provide Americans with a compelling agenda to vote for."

But the rest of the column is simply a sad battle cry from a defeated partisan. Election time is a time when parties and candidates put their best foot forward. Their message and PR machines churn out reason upon reason as to why you should vote for them — or their candidate — more so than at any other time. They highlight the issues they feel are most important.

While Democrats campaigned for lower class sizes, more teachers, more student loans, more computers in classrooms and a patient's bill of rights, Republicans campaigned on a strictly anti-Clinton level. The Republican National Committee spent millions of dollars on an election strategy called "Operation Breakout." It was a multi-million dollar advertising blitz aimed at what else — attacking the president and his supporters in the hopes voters would vote the GOP line. What actually happened is that Republicans turned in the worst sixth-year showing for a party out of the White House in 176 years.

Democrats pulled off upsets in Senate races in New York and North Carolina, as well as some stunning gubernatorial victories. Former GOP Representative Jim Ross Lightfoot blew a 20-point lead in the final three weeks of the Iowa gubernatorial race, handing the Governor's mansion to a Democrat for the first time in decades.

Why is this? Mr. Butterfield seemed to be searching for this answer as well, declaring, "This left many wondering, 'What exactly do conservatives believe? What do they stand for?'" In fact, few were left wondering that at all.

Conservatives showed what they stand for this year: Attacking and investigating President Clinton and killing and blocking important legislation for working families. Congress had the opportunity to pass tax cuts, pro-education legislation and laws to protect people from the abuses of HMOs.

They did none of that, instead opting to waste upwards of $45 million of our tax dollars on a partisan impeachment inquiry. A pre-election poll in the Oct. 30 issue of The New York Times shows why Democrats won:

• Education: By a 21-point margin, Americans trust Democrats more than Republicans.
• Health Care: By a 33-point margin, Americans trust Democrats more than Republicans.
• Understanding the Needs of Families: By a 22-point margin, people think Democrats are more likely to understand the needs and problems of American families.
• Social Security: By a 23-point margin, Americans trust Democrats rather than Republicans to make the right decisions about Social Security.

As long as conservatives and Republicans choose to advance their own hateful agenda, they will continue to suffer defeats like they did on this Election Day. If students are interested in issues that affect them, then I invite you to check out the College Democrats.

We meet on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. in Taylor 302 and offer compassionate, common-sense solutions to the problems facing America, rather than the extreme, do-nothing agenda of our Republican counterparts.

Jamie Gregorian is a senior political science major and Executive Director of the JMU College Democrats.

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.
Announcing JMU’s Summer 1999 Writing Program In Ireland

For students who are interested in exploring their writing talents in a place where words and imagery have always been treated with special attention. We'll spend six weeks in Ireland, June 13 to July 26 — two weeks each at Trinity College, Dublin, University College, Galway, and University College, Cork.

Each student will earn a minimum of six credits, enrolling in four credits of feature writing or screenplay writing, plus a two-credit course featuring lectures about creative writing in Ireland. The program will include weekly cultural events and field trips keyed to the courses, plus outings to the Irish countryside and coastal regions. Prerequisite: An interest in writing. All majors welcome.

COSTS: The projected costs if we have a group of 20 are $3,650 plus airfare for in-state students, $4,500 plus airfare for out-of-state. Airfare should cost from $650 to $850. The fee covers tuition, lodging, and a weekly food allowance, plus all program expenses related to admissions, travel, instructional materials, and group social events.

Meeting, Dec. 8

For more information you should attend our introductory meeting Dec. 8, at 5 p.m., in Room 10, Anthony-Seege Hall, or contact Profs. Alan Neckowitz or Charles Turner of the School of Media Arts and Design — Neckowitz, 568-618, e-mail: neckowax; Turner, 568-6494, e-mail: turnercc.

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(some restrictions apply)
Gobble, Gobble, Gobble... A Turkey Day fanatic reflects on her favorite culinary, nostalgic memoirs of the big day

My mind isn’t in class this morning. It won’t be in class tomorrow morning either. Sure, I’m physically here, but my mind is running down that dance track like one of those dogs in the “Kibbles and Bits” commercials. Instead of conjugating verbs in Spanish, my mind is capable of only: “Turkey Day, Turkey Day, Turkey Day.” My mind isn’t even acute enough right now to jump into Adam Sandler’s “Thanksgiving Song.” It’s just a lump of mashed potatoes, and I like it that way. Turkey, turkey, turkey. Thanksgiving is so cool. Sure, it’s turned into a kind of self-absorbed holiday where people can gain up to 17 pounds in a single sitting and then wash their exercbitant meals down with quality beer watching the Dallas Cowboys (“America’s Team” playing on America’s Day! I love football, but hold me back from being ill) battle the New England Patriots, the Minnesota Vikings.

Turkey Day has always been terrific in my house. We eat, drink, go to grandpa’s, watch football like any red-blooded American family, eat mom’s stuffing (I prefer that as a main course with turkey as a side dish, but for some reason, mom has always mandated that I have turkey and vegetables in equal proportion to stuffing), and eat and eat. And the best thing about Thanksgiving is people generally have good memories to share. Turkey is one of those foods that has to do with mom’s incredible stuffing. One time, one of my brother’s friends thought my sweet, lovable, just-say-no-to-drugs mother was trafficking marijuana. My mother the marijuana trafficker? That’s the most ridiculous thing I’d ever heard. Mom makes her stuffing with savory, a green spice that looks akin to oregano and well... marijuana. She stores it in large bricks in the freezer in Ziploc bags. The savory is love and hate and makes the stuffing so mouth-watering and delectable. It’s best stored in the freezer.

The friend went into the freezer for an ice cream sandwich and freaked. He looked a bit misplaced. I nervously told her “Dude, it’s not bad,” he told his friend. “It’s savory from Canada. It’s a legal spice, man, and she passed it right through customs.”

The only problem is now whenever I think of mom’s stuffing, all I can think of is mom, a turkey and a whole pile of “marijuana.” It’s so nice, I laugh until I cry every time she whips out the savory. I’ve never told her about the memory, but after reading this, she’ll now know why I laugh so hard every time I help — okay, watch her — make the stuffing. Not the most conventional of Thanksgiving memories, huh?

The meaning of Thanksgiving is about: reliving old memories and creating new ones. It’s a time for family and friends to come together to be happy and yes, give thanks. That’s what Thanksgiving is about: reliving memories, huh?

Everyone still probably has a lot of work left before finals, but having the time off is a lifesaver. Even if you don’t get all your work done at home, at least your brain will resurge from mashed potato stage so you can work on all those projects Sunday night.

Despite my seemingly shallow reasons for being thankful for Turkey Day falling this week, I firmly believe people still take time to give thanks for what they have in their lives (I do too, just for the record). With that, I’d like to get sappy for a change.

Rumbling around campus, I talk to people and see them participating in canned food drives for the less fortunate and other charitable works. Everyone it seems — Greeks, service-oriented organizations, just everyday students — are getting out there to help the community, or to just help a friend in need. JMU students, by and large, are rather privileged. Some of us are here on financial aid, struggling to make ends meet, some of us are here with unlimited help from mom and dad. But I see good fortune among all economic brackets at JMU, and we’re privileged to be at an institution of higher learning.

There is no argument. Accept it: WE ARE PRIVILEGED and we should be thankful for that. So many students either can’t get in to college or never find a way to make it through college. In my years here, I’ve seen people take their good fortune for granted, but I’ve seen it less this year.

We get knocked for not being caring individuals, for being self-absorbed. But I’d like to say that as we enter this holiday season, I see a crop of students who are not self-absorbed. I see those who are thankful for what they have, and what they’ve gained, over the last year. It’s important to go into the holiday with the proper perspective and continue to be thankful.

Happy Turkey Day.

— Courtney A. Crowley

Modern Dance more than simply steps

A Turkey Day fanatic reflects on the importance of dance classes at JMU, her love for dance, and how much it has changed her life.

A Turkey Day fanatic reflects on the importance of dance classes at JMU, her love for dance, and how much it has changed her life.


guest columnist

Mariah Vacca is a junior psychology major.

Modern Dance more than simply steps

How one student was converted from a skeptic into a performer

Any of you have ever been to a modern dance concert at JMU, there’s a good chance you left the performance uttering the all too common phrase, “I just didn’t get it.”

If you’ve felt that way, you’re not alone. My intention isn’t to give a research-oriented history of the beginnings of modern dance or a boring lecture about its evolution into a worldwide art form. I would, however, like to give you a bit of personal perspective from someone who once shared those same confused sentiments as many of you out there.

Like many other shy little girls, my mother enrolled me in dance classes at age three to help me break out of my shell and develop my own interests. Although the first few years were reserved only for Mom, eventually, dance became the core of my childhood. The words ballet, tap and jazz were part of my regular vocabulary; there was nothing else in the world I wanted to do.

As a result of a family move, I stopped dancing for eight years — until that fateful day during my freshman year at JMU when I decided to take the bull by the horns and march over to the dance department. There I was in “the dance hallway” not knowing exactly what I had planned to do once I got there. I happened to be greeted by a very smiley-faced girl who could tell I looked a bit misplaced. I nervously told her my situation, and she told me of an improvisation class that was looking for more members. So began my journey.

The class was like nothing else I’d ever experienced before. There were times when we rolled around on the floor and cried all kinds of strange noises. We learned to move from what we were feeling and not what we were thinking. For quite a while, I felt completely inadequate as these instructions didn’t seem to phase anyone but me.

During that semester, I went to see my first modern dance concert. I was impressed by much of the movement but, like so many others out there, I felt like I was missing some important point in this. There was very heavy breathing, lots of text and times when there wasn’t any actual dancing happening at all. Over the semester, we continued to do new and interesting things in the improv class. We also had to keep a journal of our thoughts and feelings about our progress.

As time wore on, I found myself truly looking forward to that class. It was the one place where everything else disappeared and I could express whatever I was feeling without fear of being thrown off the rails of a complete idiot of myself. My transformation was inevitable. When the semester was over, I realized there was a lot more to this stuff than I was getting into. I registered for some more dance classes, one of which was a modern class.

The class was amazing. Not only did I get great exercise, but I learned about philosophies of movement that were so different from the strict training I’d received as a child. I can’t speak for anyone else, but this form of expression became a serious outlet for my psyche. The need to think about every leap or turn has gradually moved away, and I have become so much more comfortable with my body and spirit because I’ve gained such a valuable way to integrate them.

Now when I dance, I don’t worry nearly as much about what people will think of me, but more about how it makes me feel. When I watch others dance, I no longer try to pick apart their purpose or motivations because I can simply appreciate that it may not be for me to know.

The idea that the art of dance is not purely for entertainment value is a hard one for many people to wrap their heads around. I was lucky enough to be given help by some amazing faculty and really talented classmates. I know modern dance isn’t for everyone, but I can only hope that you can go into it (even just as an observer) with an open mind, you never know what you might discover.

Mariah Vacca is a junior psychology major.
They could have danced all night

JACKIE CISTERNINO
assistant style editor

"Invert This!," a dance concert comprised of 12 student-choreographed pieces, was featured at Godwin Hall this weekend by the JMU School of Theatre and Dance.

The concert highlighted a variety of dance pieces, including modern, folk and swing dancing. The show opened with "Push," a modern dance number performed to the music of Danny Thomas and Lenny Pickett. Choreographed by dance area coordinator Shane O'Hara, with assistance from the dancers, "Push" utilized the stage's depth.

"Instincts," the second piece, was a modern dance performance to the Riverdance music of Bill Whelan.

"Fever," choreographed and performed by senior Tiffany Wilson, was a modern dance piece evoking pain and suffering. Wilson attributes this dance to her ancestral background.

"A fever is defined as a craze; a heightened emotion or activity; or intense agitation," Wilson said. "I stand on the shoulders of my ancestors, for without their work, I would not be here. It is because of their strength and the path God has planned for me that I get fever," Wilson added.

"Fever," "Santa Rita" was a light-hearted Mexican polka performed by members of the JMU Folk Dance Ensemble.

Sophomores Katie Thomas and Joseph Steiner perform the "Santa Rita," a traditional Mexican dance.

The dancers encouraged the audience to clap along and shout Spanish words while they danced in traditional garb.

The audience were happy to oblige and joined in, as they clapped along and shouted words like "taco" to the dancers.

"Divination," a piece performed to "Dead Can Dance," was choreographed by senior Melissa McDonald.

The modern dance piece encompassed gathering movements, as the dancers came together in circles.

The next piece of the evening, "Instincts," was a modern dance performance to the music of Bill Whelan.

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"Fever," "Santa Rita" was a light-hearted Mexican polka performed by members of the JMU Folk Dance Ensemble.

The next piece, "40 Hours 40 Winks," was a modern dance piece evoking pain and suffering. Wilson attributes this dance to her ancestral background.

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Come 'Meet Joe Black'

BRENT BOWLES
Breeze film critic

If any film exists to prove just how tremendous a performer Anthony Hopkins can be, "Meet Joe Black" is it. For nearly three hours, we're treated to an august rendering of wisdom and faith by an actor of unparalleled wit and subtlety. Although the film itself is a splendidly directed and crafted fable, Hopkins' unspeakably magnificent presence heightens it to an experience of graceful poignancy.

A remake of the 1934 comedy "Death Takes a Holiday" (based on an Italian stage play by Alberto Casella), "Meet Joe Black" follows Death as he takes human form and experiences life, love and the pursuit of peanut butter. Under the pseudonym Joe Black, Death attaches himself to aging communications tycoon William Parrish (Hopkins), who, on the verge of his 65th birthday, is close to losing his company to a merger. In a similar vain to "Scent of a Woman" (from the same director, Martin Brest), it seems Parrish and Black both have a bit to teach each other, and while the latter's love for Parrish's daughter Susan (Claire Forlani) threatens to end Black's corporeal visit (an event which will result in the elder Parrish's death), the results are positively enchanting.

Directed by Brest with verve and warmth, "Meet Joe Black" is a gallery of moments. It can be argued that moments do not a movie make, but oh how these moments are bathed in golden light and paced with serene composure (for once, here's a movie that takes its time in telling a human story), the moments in Brest's movie — tender, exhilarating and at times breathtakingly romantic — are blended with such a careful touch that the whole feels confidently complete. Never once is the three-hour length at all daunting; scenes are written with such a maturity and with such meticulousness an exploration that their breadth and tenderness are unbelievably refreshing. Brest is, however, that a moment of the film is for the part. His preternatural, Ken-doll exterior would seem precisely the kind of phony disguise a supernatural (or is that metaphysical?) force would appropriate for earthly antics.

Pitt's pithy egoism, that snide, movie star impudence he's carried in countless star vehicles like "Seven Years in Tibet," feels natural to a fish-out-of-water scenario, and since it's impossible to fake it when standing next to Hopkins' thespian magnificence, Pitt is forced to work for his supper. In what amounts to his first true performance, Pitt is astonishingly natural and quite amazing.

Pitt and Forlani, however, share a handful of scenes that cry for Hopkins' presence (even the nice supporting cast, including Marcia Gay Harden and Jeffrey Tambor, would do). In many scenes Pitt's uncharacteristic command uncomfortably exposes how Forlani's steely beauty is barely able to articulate her character's perplexing contradiction: for a medical intern so piercingly intelligent, her befuddlement at Black's identity just doesn't fit. When paired with Hopkins, Forlani is a radiant presence. Just as Hopkins denies Pitt the opportunity to turn "Meet Joe Black" into his vehicle, so he forces Forlani into a charming maturity.

In one of the few truly noteworthy directing jobs this year, Brest creates an atmosphere both mournful and severe. "Meet Joe Black" contains moment after moment of emotional resplendence richer than most films these days even dare to create. Brest brilliantly balances comedy and pathos with the same adept sincerity he brought to "Scent of a Woman" (for a more commercial example, look at the fantastic mix of action and comedy in Brest's other films, "Beverly Hills Cop" and "Midnight Run"). Brest turns the slightly fragmented script (by four writers, including the wonderful Bo Goldman) into a fluid piece of work, augmented by Emmanuel Lubezki's luminous cinematography and a shimmering score by Thomas Newman.

"Meet Joe Black" is as much a whimsical fable as it is a moving anthem to aging and family. Brilliantly directed, exquisitely photographed and performed with a lustre and richness for which most movies rarely give sufficient screen time, Brest's film earns its tears and laughter, treating its audience with a maturity almost universally lost in current cinematic offerings. If anything, it's the characters' willingness to believe, and the filmmakers' determination to keep mushy sentimentality in check, that make "Meet Joe Black" as good as it gets.

'Photographer to unfold 'Prairie''

CRYSTAL SMYTHE
contributing writer

JMU will host renowned photographer Terry Evans on Dec. 2 as she presents a slide lecture of her photographs and works. Evans' lecture is a part of JMU's "Visiting Scholars" series, and will take place from 7-8 p.m. in Duke Hall, Room 204.

Evans' presence is particularly exciting as she is nationally-recognized and has had her photographs displayed in The Art Institute of Chicago, The Museum of Modern Art, The National Museum of Art and The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Evans is also the author of several books on photography, many dealing with landscapes and natural scenes. Corinne Martin, associate professor of art, said Evans' lecture would be especially valuable "because it relates to so many facets of education including history, biology, ecology and art."

"All students can benefit from this major artist's knowledge and artistic ideals regardless of their major," Martin added.

The lecture itself will include Evans' publications and photographs as they relate to the American prairie.

Photographer to unfold 'Prairie'

Photographer to unfold 'Prairie'

Disarming the Prairie was published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, and developed and edited in downtown Harrisonburg at The Center for American Places.

The book was included in the award-winning series entitled, "Creating the North American Landscape," also developed by the Center.

Diane Jones, a spokesperson for the Center, explained they "develop and prepare publications to be forwarded to America's leading publishers."

The Center itself is dedicated to enhancing "the public's understanding of geography and the natural and built environment," Jones said.

It is understandable how Disarming the Prairie fits in with the Center's ideals, and it is particularly fitting that Evans should be speaking at JMU, so close to the origins of her lecture material. Evans will also participate in a reception and book signing immediately following her lecture.

The reception will be co-hosted by The Center and JMU's School of Art and Art History.

Evans will autograph copies of Disarming the Prairie, or answer any questions during the book signing. The lecture, reception and book signing are all open and free to the public.

Photographer to unfold 'Prairie'

DISARMING THE PRAIRIE
Terry Evans

with an introductory essay by Tony Hiss

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS FISCHER

Disarming the Prairie by Terry Evans will be part of Evans' lecture on Dec. 2. She will sign copies of the book after the lecture.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS FISCHER
This familiar concept has traditionally been an easy way to get yourself and your friends in the YEARBOOK. But this year we’re going to make it a little harder for you by bringing back the way it used to be...

Once upon a time you had to be creative. We’re reinstating this traditional contest. Take a funny, creative, tasteful (optional) picture with an appropriate title, and we’ll pick the winners to go in the YEARBOOK. We’ll take some of the usual as well.

- Put your name and phone number on all pictures
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Mutations.

production and instrumentation

feel. Beck uses a traditional technique in the most instrumentally diverse song on tempo of the songs.

Mutations

"Cold Brains," has a guitar-

Mutations, album. In fact, the first single from few technological additives.

in instrumentation, production and the Odelay Beck release due to the change from "Karma Police," from Radiohead's most recent full-length OK Computer, producing the sweeping,

Mutations.
on combined, as seen on MTV. Beck has recently exhibited his latest spurt of genius imagination and funky beats than the past taste of media attention, he released.

Acoustic guitar and piano provide a laid back, soft feel. Continuing with his folk and country influences, Beck plays a lonesome harmonica solo on "Play it Again" and a slide guitar on "Canceled Check." This is a release with no samples, loops or bombastic beats, and little technological wizardry. Mutations would be an ideal soundtrack for a trek near the open fields on Route 11 on a fall night when you can see your breath in the air. Since music has a tendency to make people drive faster, this album is perfect for keeping one from speeding.

The lyrics are emotive and conversational. "Who you fooling if the fools are right? / Lazy desert looks so mangled / Let me drown in a convalescent bliss," from "Static," the last credited track, is an example of these characteristics.

Beck sounds far away in a ghost town on "We Live Again." For this song, Beck sings in a hunched, groggy voice, which adds to the pathos and lonely setting.

Beck is a unique artist who does not charm out repetitive formulas or sounds in any of his songs. He's like an experimenter who will use opposites like acoustic guitar, harmonica, organ and computerized bleeps in the same song.

There is no such thing as boundaries or labels for Beck. The music and style transcends this narrow-minded point of view. Beck challenges us to hear things never heard before and blend styles of music into his own. His influences - spanning from Johnny Cash to Public Enemy - are used to create songs fun to sing along to, dance to, move with and live with.

For those of you who want an album that will not sit in your CD or tape rack for months because all the songs sound the same, have a mutation with no alarms but plenty of surprises.

Variety is spice of Agents concert

Rock, spoken word, jazz, salsa and swing will combine tonight in the PC Ballroom to give students a taste of a little bit of everything.

In what will be a real potpourri of musical tastes, three bands, Agents of Good Roots, Rio Ritmo and Jazz Poets Society will come together to perform in one venue.

Agents of Good Roots started in Richmond. This rock/pop quartet has toured on the H.O.R.D.E. tour and even opened for The Dave Matthews Band and was "signed recently to a major label (RCA)," said Casey Houz, the director of technical services for the University Program Board (UPB).

UPB is co-sponsor of the event along with 3 Credit Productions.

An eight-member combo also housing from Richmond, Bio Ritmo mixes Latin dance, salsa, and swing into their unique sound. Using a wide array of instruments including bongos, maracas, horns and congas, Bio Ritmo's latest release is Rumbinha Baby, Rumba!

A press release said "Jazz Poets society is a conclave of like-minded artists who fuse spoken word with live music." Combining words and hip-hop jazz for their latest album, Poets Lounge, Jazz Poets Society has opened for Tribe Called Quest and The Roots.

Another act from Richmond, Jazz Poets Society has toured the East Coast since 1994. The other sponsor of the event, 3 Credit Productions, is part of a Music Industry class, MUI 422, Concert Production.

"The class itself is under the wing of UPB," Houz said. UPB coordinator Chris Stup teaches the class that focuses on planning, promoting, and presenting a music concert.

3 Credit Productions produces the concerts from year to year with assistance from UPB. Providing a variety of different sounds tonight, these acts together will offer a something for a variety of tastes.

AGENTS OF GOOD ROOTS CONCERT

WHERE: PC Ballroom

WHEN: Nov. 23

AT: 8 p.m.; Doors open at 7 p.m.

TICKETS PRICED: $7 with JAC; $12 for general public and at the door

AVAILABLE AT: Warren Hall Box Office, Plan 9 Records and Town and Campus Records.

FOR MORE INFO: Call X 7560

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Got a gig or show?

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Call X 7960
Despite some mainstream acceptance, comic books are not widely regarded as an adult storytelling medium on college campuses in the United States.

Waning in popularity during the early 90s, comic book sales were on the decline due to rising costs and electronic entertainment, like video games and movies. The market is somewhat stable now and college readers are making a comeback.

According to Bob Dinsmore, owner of Blue Ridge Comics, located in Dukes Plaza, comic book sales are alive and well in 1998. He estimates about 20 percent of his buyers are college students. Those students who do read comics follow them for a variety of reasons.

Senior Eric Larsen reads title comics for the stories and follows certain creators or characters. Some company's titles are "soap-opera-y, not in a bad way. The ongoing stories brought interesting struggles to the characters," Larsen said.

Tim Schmidt, a recent JMU graduate, appreciates the professional's writings when reading comics. "Professional storytellers doing the story [is the reason I enjoy comics]," Schmidt said. "They're novel, quality stories with art that never ends."

Schmidt, also an avid reader of authors like Isaac Asimov, Tom Clancy, and a smattering of John Grisham, cited bookstores and record stores as mainstream places to buy issues.

Schmidt likens the moral value of comic books to mythological stories, citing "Captain America," as an example. "He always has something good and cool to say about his motivation," he said.

Many students think comics are a form of juvenile literature or merchandising tie-ins. Senior Leigh Ennis said, "[I] didn't realize they were as popular as they are until I started dating Tim [Schmidt]. It surprised me." The high quality of contemporary comic art also impressed her. "If any adults read them, they were like the guy on The Simpsons, the comic book guy," she said. "The Simpsons" often lampoons comic book characters and fans, with frequent references, common and obscure, to Mad magazine, among others.

Ennis (now engaged to Schmidt) is continually surprised when they bump into people Schmidt knows who can talk about comics. "Even guys that don't read them now can talk about them when they were little," Ennis said.

Illustrator and former storyboard owner Paul Chadwick reiterates that comic books are geared for every age group. "While young males still drive the market, there are comics for nearly every taste, commercial and quirky, smart genre-blenders and astonishingly candid confessions," Chadwick said. Working as an illustrator and storyboard artist on the films "The Big Easy" and "Pee-Wee's Big Adventure," Chadwick now channels his energies into his creator-owned, and critically acclaimed, comic "Concrete."

"We are in the renaissance of the medium right now," Chadwick said.

Even with close ties to mainstream mediums like movies and TV, comics are still looked upon as fringe entertainment. Many students read comics while they're younger and stop in high school or college, though some continue to bum them from friends or flip through the new issue of "X-Men" at 7-Eleven.

"The comics changed dramatically in the 80s. Stores catering to collectors created a market for comics aimed at older, sophisticated readers," Chadwick said.

"Eventually, what had once been a field dedicated to children's literature became as diverse as, say, a big city video store."

Well-known comic book writer Mark Waid feels the opportunity for comics to be accepted into mainstream culture has passed. "I think we had a better shot at it 10 years ago on the heels of 'Dark Knight' and 'Watchmen' and 'Maus,' arguably still the three most sophisticated and best uses of comics ever," Waid said. "Maus" won the Pulitzer Prize for telling the story of the Holocaust through the eyes of a family anthropomorphically depicted as mice. Mainstream press and magazines like "Rolling Stone" wrote articles about comics like "Batman: The Dark Knight Returns" and "Watchmen," hailing them as fore-
The influence of comics is far reaching, though sometimes subtle. Actor Nicolas Cage takes his last name from the comic character Luke Cage, and Jerry "Superman-obsessed" Seinfeld included the 60-year old character in many of his shows. Comedian Janeane Garofalo admits in a recent HBO special that she likes "alternative comic books." Movies based on comic books like "Blade" and "Men in Black" recently flexed box office muscles, earning large profits and positive reviews. Fox TV's Saturday morning cartoon line-up is filled with adaptation from comic books and ready-made storyboards with a built in audience. More TV shows and movies like these are planned for 1999.

The influence of a uniquely American creation, the comic book, is felt in almost all other media.

Filmmakers, actors influence comics...and vice versa
by Joey Groah, staff writer

Popular, well-known entertainers like Kevin Smith (writer/director of films like "Clerks" and "Chasing Amy") are working comic books into their critically acclaimed and commercially well-received careers. Most people know Batman fights crime in Gotham City and Spider-Man can spin a web any size, but how many know Smith sold his comic collection to finance his first movie?

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JMU Holiday Basketball Weekend!

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  Present your JAC Card at the door and you and your family get in FREE!
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Saturday, November 28, 7:30 pm
MEN’S BASKETBALL
VS. MARYLAND-EASTERN SHORE

- FACULTY-STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT
  Present your JAC Card at the door and you and your family get in FREE!
- BRING 2 CANNED FOOD ITEMS to donate to the Blue Ridge Food Bank.

Sunday, November 29, 1 pm
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
VS. ST. FRANCIS (NY)

WSVA/GTE/Keith’s Auto Sales
$20,000 Shootout
One random participant will shoot for cash prizes and a chance to win a free trip to the 1999 Men’s Basketball Final Four in Florida!
Big East?  
Big Problem

Rutgers beats JMU 78-56

SETH BURTON  
sports editor

After opening the season with two unconvincing victories over weaker out-of-conference opponents, JMU was presented with an early test yesterday afternoon in the form of Big East foe Rutgers University. It is fair to say that the Dukes flunked in every aspect, falling 78-56 to the Scarlet Knights in front of a sparse crowd of 3,791.

It was the kind of day where nothing went right for the Dukes. It was a day that saw senior Chatney Howard register more turnovers than points and Rutgers use a 22-8 run to start the second half which led to the blowout.

"That's an introduction to Big East basketball," JMU coach Sherman Dillard said. "We're just not sharp right now. In some ways I'm not surprised at how we played."

Despite shooting 38 percent in the first half, JMU found themselves down by just six points at the half. The first half wasn't an aesthetics pleasing one, as the Dukes committed 14 turnovers and were especially stagnant on offense, often bogging down into forced shots.

"We didn't run a good offense today," said junior guard Jabarri Outtz, who led the Dukes with 18 today. "I was surprised," Dillard said. "We didn't have anybody that's an offensive presence inside."

With a week off before returning to action Nov. 28, the Dukes know they have to improve not only their game, but perhaps their attitude as well.

"Today was just kind of a build-up from this week," Outtz said. "We haven't been playing well in practice."

Dillard was in complete agreement. "I've struggled trying to get their attention," Dillard said. "I think it's been fools gold winning the first two games."

There wasn't a raucous crowd to cheer the Dukes on, and with a Big East opponent in town, the announced crowd of 3,791, less than half of capacity, was disappointing.

"I was surprised," Dillard said. "I thought it would be a good crowd. We have to win their confidence too."

The lack of home court advantage even took the Scarlet Knights by surprise.

"I'm aware of the tradition," Bannon said. "I expected it to be nuts. Why wasn't it? The whole idea of this game scared the heck out of me."

Despite the loss, junior Geoff Billet, Howard finished with two points and four turnovers.

"I'd like to see Chatney do a better job of playing a complete game," Dillard said. "For us to be very, very good, Chatney has to produce."

As the first half wound to a close, Outtz was one of the few Dukes to step up and produce. Outtz scored the final eight JMU points of the half, two coming on a spectacular drive and reverse lay-up to pull JMU within six.

"I was just trying to keep it close," Outtz said. "I was waiting for everyone to get going. We just never got going."

The second half just highlighted the Dukes weaknesses, as centers Rob Strickland and Tim Lyle combined for five second-half rebounds and were inefficient on defense.

"We don't have a power game at all," Dillard said. "We don't have anybody that's an offensive presence inside."

Despite the losses, the Eagles were too strong. "I thought it would be a good contest with defending champion American University." Dillard said. "I expected it to be nuts. Why wasn't it? The whole idea of this game scared the heck out of me."

With the Dukes down 3-1, Bannon won't be having any nightmares about the Eagles. Instead, it will be Dillard and JMU who will be worrying about the next game.

"We weren't able to run an offense most of the time," Dillard said. "We started going into some offense most of the time," Dillard points.

LINDSAY MANN/student photo editor

Junior guard Jabarri Outtz drives to the hoop yesterday against the Rutgers defense. Outtz led the Dukes with 18 points as JMU fell to 2-1.

Volleyball falls short

 Lose to American in CAA Title game

It wasn't supposed to end like this. For the first time in school history, JMU went into the CAA volleyball tournament as the number one seed.

However, they ended it in a familiar place, on the losing end of a tough contest with defending champion American University.

The Eagles defended their title and received the CAA's automatic NCAA Tournament bid behind the strong play of Ajola Berisha, who collected a match-high 26 kills and contributed 23 digs.

The Dukes went down 3-1, losing 8-15, 15-12, 6-15 and 9-15. The season may not be over for the Dukes, as an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament is still up in the air. However, the regular season may be over for the Eagles, as they would hold onto for good.

Edis Bonatti was named CAA Tournament MVP for her 60 kills and 53 digs in three matches performance. Bonatti led the Eagles an 11-8 lead they would hold onto for good.

Junior Lindsay Collingwood was named to the all-tournament team as she solidified her name in the JMU volleyball record books when she became JMU's career leader in kills Saturday with her 1,225th. Collingwood finished with 19 kills and 25 digs in the final.

Junior Christina Gianino helped out for the Dukes as well, recording seven kills, 42 assists and 15 digs.

American broke the game open early with a 10-4 lead before American's Shirley Smiekel scored on two straight service aces and then served on three consecutive points to give the Eagles an 11-8 lead they would hold onto for good.

The Dukes outblocked American 13-10, as Kara Gessler was strong at the net. Gessler was a part of seven blocks as well as contributing 11 kills and 13 digs.

In the end, the Eagles were too much for the Dukes. American and JMU split their two matches during the regular season.

In the fourth and final game, The Dukes got out to a 6-3 lead before American's Shirley Smiekel scored on two straight service aces and then served on three consecutive points to give the Eagles an 11-8 lead they would hold onto for good.

Lindsay Collingwood was named CAA Tournament MVP for her 60 kills and 53 digs in three matches performance. Bonatti led the Eagles comeback in game three after dropping game two.

American broke the game open early with a 10-4 lead before winning the game 15-6 and seizing control of the match.

From Staff Reports
Duo surveys Civil War fort in Valley forest

DUO, from page 5

anthropology student, assistant to Geier and a member of the initial survey team said, "For me, the really exciting part was the survey itself — actually finding sites and features. It has not been seen by many people."

Most of the surveying took place during a six-week period this summer, Geier said. The team is now in the process of writing formal reports about what the group discovered, Geier said.

"I'm his student assistant doing special studies," Dewan said. "I'm working on the report with him."

The anthropology department has been working with the U.S. Forest Service for four years, Geier said. The report being developed now will be given to the Forest Service, Geier said.

JMU students will continue to survey and explore Fort Edward Johnson next summer, Geier said.

"...the really exciting part was the survey itself."

Bill Dewan
Geier's assistant

The fort is named for Edward Johnson, a Confederate general that was in charge while 700 soldiers set up camp in the area in 1862.

The Richmond Daily Dispatch called Johnson "rigid in discipline, stern in demanding the strictest compliance of his orders and severe upon delinquents" in an obituary in 1873. "He yet won the respect and admiration of his men by his conspicuous gallantry on the field and his strict justice to all in the camp," the newspaper stated.

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Delaware downs Dukes 28-14

JMU drops season finale; Blue Hen WR sets NCAA receiving record

**KEITH FEIGENBAUM**

On a day full of bittersweet departures and momentous record-setting at the University of Delaware's Delaware Stadium in Newark, there was one record that proved all too bitter for JMU's football team on Saturday: 5-8.

With the Dukes' second-fourth-quarter-ending 14-14 defeat before 16,731 frigid, but inspired fans, they ended their season below .500 for the second straight year.

Much like the Dukes' other seven defeats, Saturday's was one of missed opportunities. JMU forced the Blue Hens into three turnovers in the first half alone, but came up empty on each ensuing offensive drive. The Dukes' points came on an impressive opening offensive drive and a last-gasp Curtis Keaton run near the end of the fourth quarter.

Said JMU head coach Alex Raymond, "It was just a matter of doing things right to get yourself in the end zone," Wood said. "If we go one possession without scoring, they went 12 straight possessions without scoring, coming closest on a missed Alan Haston field goal with 3:24 remaining in the first half. All this despite receiving the ball in Delaware territory on one-third of all possessions (five of 15).

"It was just a matter of doing things right to get yourself in the end zone," Wood said. "If we go up on them, the incentive to win the ballgame shifts from what's happened historically [between JMU and Delaware]. It should be in our court. We were just not able to put it together well enough to do that [shift the momentum]."

Ironically, as strong winds whipped furiously around the Delaware Stadium, the Blue Hens' offense sputtered alongside the Dukes' for much of the first and into the second half. For the game, Delaware only outgained JMU 323-320 yards, while the Blue Hens' normally potent passing attack mustered only 196 total yards — 110 going to stand-out receiver Eddie Conti (team-high six receptions and a game-long reception for 40 yards).

Conti made quite a mark on Saturday's contest. He dazzled the crowd with an over-the-shoulder, 32-yard grab in the fourth quarter and put the Blue Hens ahead, 13-7, on a five-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter. However, it was his overall record-setting career that led the Delaware faithful into its incessant chants of EDD-IE!, EDD-IE!

Conti finished his illustrious career (he owns 26 school records) by setting the Delaware record for all-purpose yards in a season (2,368); the A-10 career mark for receiving yards (3,547); and the A-10 and Division I-AA mark for receptions in a season (171). The latter record was previously held by Mississippi Valley State University's Jerry Rice, now an All-Pro NFL wideout with the San Francisco 49ers.

"[Conti's] a fine football player," Delaware head coach Tubby Raymond said. "I'm pleased that he broke Nick's record.

Conti brushed off the importance of the records compared to team goals, saying, "The records are extra."

Delaware quarterback Matt Nagy (10-22, two interceptions) also topped-off a prolific passing season by breaking Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Rich Gannon's single-season passing yard record of 2,795 yards.

Of course, all this came despite a relatively strong JMU defensive effort. Led by the performances of senior safeties Tony Booth and Mike Masella and sophomore linebacker Zeb Clark (team-high 10 tackles), the Dukes held Delaware to 127 yards rushing, well below its season average of 153.5 yards per game. The Dukes also forced UD to punt on seven possessions, one less than JMU, while limiting the Blue Hens to only 24:26 of possession time, compared to JMU's 35:34.

"If we would have played well as a team, first half, second half, we would have come away with a win," Wood said. "It's very frustrating to let that happen, but you've got some young guys playing their hearts out. But that's happened to us all year."

Masella dedicated the game to his father, whom he said has not missed a JMU football game in over three years, by substituting with the number 22 worn by his father at Trenton State College.

In the fourth quarter, Masella intercepted two Nagy passes, including a touchdown pass to wide receiver Delmar Watson late in the quarter. Watson's grab ended a drive of 55 yards, with 5:59 remaining in the third quarter by the Blue Hens. The block of the Chris Wright punt gave the Blue Hens possession on the JMU 13-yard line. From there, UD took seven plays before Nagy hit Conti with a five-yard pass for the touchdown at 2:58. Kicker Garon Sizemore's point after try was successful to give UD a 14-7 lead.

"The blocked punt kicked our butts," Wood said. "We knew that they had blocked some punts this year, and when that happens, it gives you the edge. Especially when you're tied 7-7 in the third quarter and you're looking for an edge."

Following another Wright punt, UD marched the ball down the field, culminating when Nagy handed to tailback Derrick Downs, who busted through the line for what proved to be a game-winning 21-yard touchdown at 14:10.

"After forcing the Blue Hens' offense to go three downs and out, the Dukes began a drive at the UD 44-yard line. Sophomore..."
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Wrestlers shine at Navy Classic

Coyle, O'Conner, Huesdash lead JMU to best-ever finish in Annapolis

By MIKE GESARIO

The JMU wrestlers turned in their best-ever performance at the 21st Navy Classic Saturday in Annapolis.

The Dukes earned 107 points and finished fourth out of the nine competing teams. West Virginia University won the team championship with 166.5 points.

It was the first time the Dukes scored more than 100 points at the meet. Their previous best was 99.5 points set in the 1996-'97 season when they placed fifth out of the seven teams at the tournament.

"I think we did extremely well team wise," JMU junior co-captain Dave Vollmer said. "That's the most guys we've ever placed at the Navy Classic. I was pretty satisfied with the team."

JMU had three individuals finish in third-place in their respective weight classes. The first Duke to claim a third-place trophy was freshman Jonathan Huesdash. JMU's 125-pounder went 4-1 on the day. His only loss was to the number two seed, Angelo Zegarelli of WVU. Huesdash pinned Boston University's Peter Aguado in the third/fourth place match.

Another freshman, 149-pounder Jim O'Conner, gave JMU its second third-place finish. O'Conner (5-1 on Saturday) had a tough route to the trophy stand though, as he wrestled some of the highest seeded wrestlers of the tournament. He defeated the fifth seed, Navy's Craig McDermott, twice and also defeated fourth-seeded Chris Simmons of BU and third-seeded Jeremy Hite of Navy. His lone loss was to top-seeded Joe Carr of WVU.

"For freshmen to come in and place that high, that's very impressive," JMU junior co-captain Mike Coyle said.

Coyle, a first-year transfer and the younger brother of former JMU standout Pat Coyle, finished third in the 141-lb. class.

Coyle made quick work of most of his opponents. He scored three falls on the day, two of which came in the first period of the matches.

"I was pretty happy with the way I wrestled," Coyle said. "I got a few pins today. I always just try to go out there and pin them as fast as I can. That's what we go out there for, to pin and win."

A controversial call kept Coyle, the fourth-seed, from finishing higher than third. In his third match of the night, Coyle took on number-one seed and eventual champion Whitey Chlebove of the Mountaineers. Chlebove was credited with five points in the final 10 seconds of the match.

"When I was on my back, I scored. Chlebove went on to win the match. "When I was on my back, I was asking how long we were going to lose. We had some guys who lost some close matches, but didn't let it get them down."

"Even if they got down, they were just going to come back," JMU assistant coach Doug Detrick said. "They didn't want to lose. We had some guys who lost some close matches, but didn't let it get them down."

"I think I did all right," Vollmer said. "I lost in double overtime, and ended up having three overtime matches. It was a long day. That last match was my sixth of the day."

Sophomore heavyweight DJ Hockman and freshman Josh Fultz (157 lbs.) turned in fifth-place finishes for the Dukes. Both were awarded default victories in their final matches.

JMU sophomore Nathan Rickman (3-3 on the day) was sixth in the 174-lb. class.

The Dukes said one of the reasons they performed as well as they did was their conditioning program.

"We were in shape," Coyle said. "I was surprised that we were in as good of shape as we were for the first tournament of the year. We also didn't have too many injuries, which is something to be happy about when you wrestle five matches a day."

JMU also stayed mentally tough, which is important when wrestling five or six matches over a span of eight hours.

"If they got down, they were just going to come back," JMU assistant coach Doug Detrick said. "They didn't want to lose. We had some guys who lost some close matches, but didn't let it get them down."

The Dukes will have a chance to recover from the grueling competition this week. JMU practices today before adjourning for the Thanksgiving break.

JMU travels to Bethlehem, Pa. to compete in the Lehigh Sheridan Invitational Dec. 5.

Team results from the 21st Navy Classic

1. West Virginia 166.5
2. Navy 136.5
3. Rutgers 120
4. James Madison 107
5. North Carolina State 102
6. Boston University 90
7. Ithaca College 87
8. Virginia Tech 24.5
9. Howard 15
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JMU bounces back from first loss

Dukes put Pepperdine defeat behind them, crush Maryland Eastern Shore

The ability to bounce back from defeat is a trait championship teams need to have. After this weekend's Wildcat Classic at Villanova University, it would appear the Dukes have that trait.

After being handed their first loss of the season on Nov. 20 by Pepperdine University, the Dukes (2-1) responded by thrashing overmatched Maryland Eastern Shore, 92-54 Nov. 21.

JMU was on fire against the Lady Hawks, (1-3) as they got out to a 19-1 lead and didn't look back. MD Eastern Shore didn't reach double figures until there were only four minutes left in the half. The Lady Hawks managed just 16 points in the first half on 20 percent shooting.

Sophomore Stacey Todd was the Dukes' top scorer with 15 points while freshman guard Alyson Kenner and senior forward Kish Jordan scored 13 points each. Jordan also pulled down 12 rebounds to lead JMU. The Dukes dominated the boards, outrebounding MD Eastern Shore 57-28.

Krista Sheldon was the lone bright spot for the Lady Hawks, leading all scorers with 20 points.

The Dukes didn't get off to such a good start in the tournament, however. The Pepperdine Waves got on the board first with 5:35 remaining in the first quarter. On the ensuing possession, Nagy handed to Thompson, who fumbled the ball half the distance to the goal to the UD 41-yard line.

FILE PHOTO BY KYLIE WILSON/Staff photographer

The individuals pictured are identifying two individuals as members of the NCAA-bound cross country team in the Nov. 19 issue. The Breeze apologizes for mistakenly identifying two individuals as members of the NCAA-bound cross country team in the Nov. 19 issue. The Breeze regrets the errors.

The Dukes cut the Pepperdine lead to six with 7:47 left in the game on a Wollenberg jump shot from 12 feet out. Sarah Richen responded with a lay-up, and JMU didn't score for nearly two full minutes while the Waves went on a 13-5 run over the next three minutes to put the game away.

The Dukes travel to Blacksburg Nov. 24 to play Virginia Tech. They finally come back to Harrisonburg Nov. 27 for their first home game of the season against the University of Rhode Island.

Delaware ends Dukes' season like it started

wide receiver Earnest Payton, who finished the season with a team-high 82 receptions, caught two Greg Maddox (16-28, three interceptions) passes on back-to-back plays. Five plays later, Keaton rushed in from one-yard out to score his second touchdown of the day at 4:56, cutting the lead to 21-14.

On the ensuing possession, Nagy handed to Thompson, who fumbled the ball into the end zone, only to be recovered by UD's center Jeff Fuss at 1:17. Sizemore kicked the point after to put the game out of reach at 28-14.

UD struck first in the game's opening quarter, as Conti returned the opening kickoff 38 yards to the UD 41-yard line. Nagy then hit Conti on the second play of the drive for 40 yards to the JMU 17-yard line.

A personal foul on the Dukes brought the ball half the distance to the goal to the JMU eight-yard line. Tailback Craig Cummings ran the ball in for the touchdown at 14:00, with Sizemore adding the extra point for a 7-0 lead.

JMU countered with a long, clock-eating drive featuring Keaton. On the drive, Keaton rushed nine times for 57 yards. He rumbled into the UD endzone from one-yard out to make the score 7-6 with 5:35 remaining in the first quarter. Haston added the extra point tie the game at 7-7.

As would be expected following a 3-8 season, questions will now arise concerning the direction of the JMU football program - from coaching concerns to individual positions.

The Dukes return all but three starters (not including seniors Wright and Haston), but three impact players, at that. It will be no easy feat, but one that Booth believes must be done with the current staff.

"We had a great season," Booth said. "We have a great nucleus coming back and a great coaching staff. The only thing that I can say going out that matters the most, I hope JMU keeps it together."
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**FENCING**

JMU's fencing team went 1-2 Saturday at the Dual Meets at Chapel Hill, NC.

JMU defeated the University of Florida 23-9, but fell to Duke University 18-14 and the University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill 22-10.

Against Florida, the Dukes went 15-1 in the foil competition. Freshmen Devon Allen and Belinda Greensberg and senior Susan Looser were all a perfect 4-0. Senior Rowena Federico led the epee fencers with a 3-1 record.

Freshman Allison Schwartz was 4-0 in the epee competition against UNC. Schwartz was 8-4 in the three meets.

The Dukes were forced to use Looser and freshman Tara Saddig in both the foil and epee competition, even though both are foil specialists. Had Saddig and Looser not competed as foil specialists, JMU would have had to forfeit there bouts.

Overall, JMU's foil fencers were 22-22, the epee fencers 21-17 and the sabre 9-18.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Men's final poll released Nov. 17

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Others receiving votes:
- Tennessee-Chattanooga (31), Miami Ohio (23), BYU (21), Duke (18), Tulane (11), William & Mary (11), Bucknell (7), Tennessee (6), Columbia (5), SMU (2)

**WEIGHT LIFTING**

Several JMU students performed well at the Virginia State Bench Press and Power Lifting Championship in Charlottesville.

Junior Mike Basgier's total of 1180 pounds in the two events earned him first in the 165-class of the junior division, junior Jarred Fravel was second overall and first in the collegiate division with 1400 total pounds and senior Tim Henriques was first in both the open and collegiate divisions with 1405 total pounds. Last week, UREC held a similar competition. Junior Mike Vaughn won the competition. The 162-pounder benched 350 pounds and dead lifted 430 pounds.

**VOLLEYBALL**

JMU head coach Chris Beerman was named the CAA Coach of the Year.

The Dukes also had a school-record four players named to the All-CAA team.

Junior Lindsay Collingwood and Christiana Gianino and sophomores Kati Gessler and Sara Kidd were named to the team.

Collingwood, an outside hitter, was named to the All-CAA first-team for the third time in her career. Gessler, a middle hitter, also made the first team for the second straight year. Gianino, a setter in her first season at JMU, also made the first team.

The 5-foot-10 Kidd lead the CAA in digs with a 3.63 per game average and was named to the conference's second team.

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JMU lost to American University in the final game of the CAA tournament.

**NCAA BASKETBALL**

Former JMU head coach Lefty Driesell became the only 11th coach in NCAA history to reach the 700 win plateau Saturday. Driesell, in his second season as head coach at Georgia State University, reached the milestone at the game won at the Panthers defeated North Florida 84-74.

Driesell, 66, coached JMU for nine seasons. He was 159-111 over that time. This is Driesell's 37th season as a head coach.

Georgia State is 1-1 this year. It was Driesell's third attempt to lead North Florida 84-74.

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**Today's Birthday (Nov. 23)** Money is your theme this year, and you can make your dreams come true. You'll do it partially through good luck, as usual, and partially through improving your education. Right now, you're incredibly lucky in love, and you're having all sorts of transformations in how you see yourself. You're completing the past and making bold plans for the future. In December, you can figure out how much all this will cost, and arrange your budget now to take action. This is almost like acting out your fantasies, so ought to be fun. March is best for entertaining at home, and April is good for rekindling an old romance. Your summer looks uneventful, but maybe that's because you're saving up for a big trip in August. September is action-packed, as you push with more enthusiasm than ever before to achieve the success you have earned.

**To get the advantage, check the day's rating:**

- **10** is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** — Today is a 3 — An older person is bosses you around, and in this case it's probably warranted. You may be trying to do something that you don't really have the experience to carry out. The good news is that you're gaining experience, and this person is actually trying to help. The end result could be that you're much more efficient.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Today is an 8 — Your hopes and dreams seem almost within reach today. With a little determination, and the help of a rather pushy loved one, they are. Let yourself be talked into doing something you wouldn't normally dare. You're especially likely to be adventurous if you've done your homework. That is the key to your success.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** — Today is a 5 — It looks like the truth is coming out soon, mostly concerning financial matters. You and your partner are going to be able to figure out how you got into debt, or how to make your next wise investment, or whatever it is you do together. If you don't have a financial partner yet, your best bet is somebody you've known for years.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** — Today is a 7 — Your sign is often associated with entertaining at home, and with being a magnificent cook. If this describes you, you've noticed we're entering the holiday season. You tend to think you're the only one who can do the job. Get over this idea by allowing a partner to help. That'll be more fun for all.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Today is a 6 — It's not don'ts as where you don't have control. Why not just accept responsibility and do what needs to be done on purpose? When you merely daydream, you just make yourself miserable. Instead, focus on the job with everything you've got and whip it into shape. You'll have time left over for what you had in mind all along.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Today is a 9 — You're lucky in love today, and it looks like you're supposed to be doing something else. Well, if anyone can organize a schedule effectively, it's you. In fact, you might be able to schedule a brief, precious moments with your sweeter uninterrupted, even in the middle of a busy day. Give it a try. You've got nothing to lose.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Today is a 5 — You love talking to people about philosophical subjects, and you'll get lots of opportunities to do that during the coming few weeks. Each of us has a personal philosophy, of course, but yours always seems to be under construction. This month, you'll find lots of good material to get it fine-tuned just the way you want it.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — Today is an 8 — Your focus is on finances. Conditions indicate good luck and a fruitful abundance, but also a tendency to squander, lose things or mismanage your money. Those are all areas to look out for. You learn through experience.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — Today is a 9 — You're lucky in love, you have the ability to produce thrilling revelations in others, and your ability to communicate is enhanced.

— Tribune Media Services

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**SOAP OPERA UPDATES**

**All My Children**

Gillian turns to David when Ryan dumps her. Hayley tweaks hearing Mateo has a son with Raquel. She sees no future with Mateo, Raquel and Max. She heads for the beach and is comforted by Ryan, Raquel refuses cash from Adam to get out of town. Kit hears Erica describe her as a con artist. She flees from her hospital room. Edmund finds her and convinces her Erica is out of line. Kit remembers her attacker was wearing a wolves mask.

**Another World**

Vicky loses it when Marley takes Donna to the linen Foundation for treatment. While they are doing battle, Donna speaks. Jake and Vicky are married. Donna claims she was the one who tried to break up Jake and Vicky, not Marley. Josie thinks she may be misdirecting and Amanda comforts her. Amanda asks Cory if he's sure he is carrying his child. Cory thinks something happened to Matt at Linuma and Lila tells him to butt out. Jordan Stark tells Marley she can make Vicky vanish.

**As the World Turns**

Margo gives Tom the brush-off at the Oakdale Police Department after thinking he spent the night with Emily. Hall later tells Margo that Tom was not with Betty. Emily pretends to almost faint for Tom's benefit over the stress of being pursued by David. In a high-tech move, Lily attempts to get David's voice on tape stating he will disown James if he ties the knot with Lucinda. The power goes out in the World

---

**The Young & the Restless**

Paul finds out Chris is in Norfolk, not New York. He thinks she's with Danny. Nina tips Paul off about this. Ruth tells Chris she is happy to help because she is the one person who stands between Stefan and Laura. Lily gets his foot caught in a wolf trap after kidnapping Lucky. Lucky stays by his side. Robin doesn't like having Carly around. Carly blames Robin for the fact that Jason left her.

**Guiding Light**

Cassie spills to Rev. Hart and Dinah that Josh has been coming on to her and ripped her bracelet off. Rev. doesn't get this and Josh doesn't remember. Dinah finds Cassie's bracelet. Cassie and Tammy move out. Dru comes on to Danny, but he doesn't bite. Michelle tries but finds Danny upset that no one attended his brother's funeral. Rev. tries to talk to Josh, but once he uses the tainted shaving cream, he takes off to meet Annie.

**Days of Our Lives**

Stefano and Rolf plan to transform Hope into Princess Gina. Billie sheds her wedding ring. In a physical therapy session with Taylor, Lucas attempts to get info on her past. Vivian tells Roman about Kate's shady past. Sami nearly tells Roman that Kate's an ex-hooker. Depressed Vivian wants Stefano to help her take over Titan.

**General Hospital**

Stefan tells Helena it was Luke and Alexis who tried to kill her and not Katherine that night. He tells Helena she can personally seek revenge on Luke. Helena tells Stefan that Luke will never die because he is the one person who

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**Sunset Beach**

Cole meets Hillary with the jewels and he wants Caitlin first. He gives her just one jewel, she chants and is transformed into a young beauty. He attempts to grab the gun, they struggle, the gun goes off and Hillary goes down. Cole saves Caitlin, and Francesca shows up with Olivia to retrieve the jewels. Hillary instantly becomes a nun. The cops rescue them and Cole tells Caitlin and Hillary to keep quiet about the jewels and Hillary.

**The Breeze**

Monday, Nov. 23, 1998

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Events of final night detailed in court documents

EVENTS, from page 4

frequently suffered.

When he came inside, he told his mother he was going to spend the night at his girlfriend's house and kissed her goodbye, he told police. He said he then went to Anne's bedroom and hugged her, went downstairs, took his puppy, locked the door and drove to his girlfriend's house.

Matthew Harper told police he was feeling "very hot" when he got to his girlfriend's house. When he got into bed, he told police he was shaking, a symptom, he said, of his illness. He also said he didn't immediately go to sleep.

He said his girlfriend told him that he was talking to her but not making any sense. The next morning, he told police, his girlfriend told him his house had been destroyed in a fire and his sister was dead.

When police asked Matthew Harper if he knew who could have killed his sister or hurt his mother, he responded there were two possible suspects, one of them his father, whom he described in the interview as "violent" and "out of control."

Matthew Harper told police his father physically beat him when he was growing up and verbally abused Anne. "It wasn't exactly a real pleasant divorce, he might still harbor a grudge. But if he did it, it would be against my mother... But for him to [be] a suspect, I mean... when we were young and he used to beat me, he would almost never ever hit her and just I can't believe him really going after her," Matthew Harper told police.

The Harpers divorced in December 1992, court records show.

Matthew Harper said a family friend could be the other suspect. "But, again, of anybody, Anne was by far and above his favorite of our family," Matthew Harper told police. Attempts to reach Matthew Harper's father were unsuccessful. Police do not consider him or the family friend suspects in the case.

When police asked Matthew Harper about the stain on his blue jeans, he said the stain might have come from the night he made lasagna for the family when Anne came home about a week before she died.

"If it is [blood], I don't know where it came from and there is no reason I could think that if it was blood it would be my sister's," he told police. "I mean it might be mine, I have acne and I have a tendency picking my face and wiping my hands. I might cut myself."

Police asked Matthew Harper during the interview if he was involved in his sister's death.

"I live there, I am related to her, that's the extent of it," he said.

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