Exposure charges dismissed

Accused student provided strong alibi in defense

KATHERYN LENKER
news editor

Charges against a JMU sophomore accused of indecent exposure were dismissed yesterday after a judge ruled that the charges weren't substantiated.

Kenneth Samples, 21, formerly of 895 Fort Republic Rd., was found not guilty after appearing in General District Court.

Samples is a transfer student from Pennsylvania and the fall semester was his first at JMU.

Rockingham County Circuit Court Judge William Heatwole cited the strong alibi provided by Samples' former roommate, Matt Alexander. Alexander testified he was with Samples on the evening of Oct. 18, 1998, and was jogging with him near South View Apartments at 1:05 p.m., the time the alleged incident occurred. The judge dismissed the charges.

Heatwole said he believed that junior Noelle Jones, Samples' accuser, saw what she said she saw, but said Samples' independent witness provided an alibi and dismissed the charges against Samples.

Jones, a Commons resident, testified she had changed her shirt around 11 p.m. with her blinds inadvertently left open. Jones said she quickly left her apartment and was about four feet outside her apartment when she noticed a man sitting half in shadows masturbating. Jones testified she initially thought the man was a friend of hers, but after staring at him for five seconds, she said she realized she didn't know the man.

Jones said she returned to her apartment where her roommate convinced her to call the police. The police arrived in nearly five minutes, Jones testified, and within several more minutes, Jones said she was called by the police to the Commons parking lot to identify a man. Jones identified Samples as the man she had seen.

Athletic director resigns office

MIKE CESARIO AND SETH BURTON
sports editors

After five years of making changes in the JMU athletic program, JMU Director of Athletics Don Lemish made a surprising move Jan. 6 when he announced his resignation effective March 15.

Citing apparent health concerns that made him reconsider his future plans, Lemish met with JMU President Linwood Rose Jan. 4 and 5 before deciding to retire. Lemish, 55, is unsure of his future plans although Rose said it is unlikely Lemish would assume a different position at JMU.

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Lemish, the second athletic director in school history, presided over the program since December 1993 when Dean Ehlers retired. During Lemish's tenure, the JMU athletic program enjoyed some of its most successful years.

For two straight seasons (1994-'95 and 1995-'96) JMU was the nation's top Division I-AA program in all-sports competition, honored by Sears and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. In 1994-'95, the Dukes won their first NCAA Division I Championship when the field hockey team brought home the title.

Removed officers, SGA fight over impeachment

BRAD JENKINS
news editor

Student Government Association officials removed half of the senior class council from office just before winter break after an impeachment hearing that the impeached officers say was riddled with unfairness.

Senior Class Treasurer Greg Montalto and Senior Class Secretary Matt Hertz were both removed from office Dec. 9 after Senior Class President Chris Neff, in consultation with Senior Class Vice President Lauren Hendricks, accused the two of not fulfilling their responsibilities as class officers.

Montalto and Hertz claim the impeachment hearing, the results of which are final, wasn't conducted in a fair manner because Hendricks was on the impeachment panel. Neff, on the other hand, claims the two have made the removal a personal battle against himself.

According to the SCA Constitution, in an impeachment hearing, the Director of Class Governments Heather Herman randomly selects two representatives from each class council to sit on the panel. A majority vote of the panel is required to remove the accused from office. Montalto said the vote to remove him was 5-to-3, while Hertz said the vote to remove him was 6-to-2.

SCA President Tim Emry said that as far as he knows, this is the first time a class officer has been impeached and removed from office. "There were none last year," he said. "They tried two years ago to impeach a senator. I don't know if we've ever impeached a class officer."

Impeachment hearing panel members were: Freshman Treasurer Matt Strugar, Freshman Treasurer Chris Fortier, Sophomore President Brad Palmer, Sophomore Secretary Michelle Toothen, Junior President Erin Uyttewaal, Junior Treasurer John Harvath, Junior Secretary Lisa Pellegrino and Hendricks.

Neff was originally named a member of the panel, but Montalto and Hertz told Herman they objected to Neff and Hendricks being on the panel, saying two class council members from other classes should be selected to ensure fairness. Herman gave in and replaced Neff, but she insisted that Hendricks remain on the panel, Montalto said.

Mandela speaks in Wilson

KATHERYN LENKER
news editor

With an expansive wave of her arm, Winnie Mandela, president of the African National Congress Women's League, enveloped the near capacity crowd of 1300 in Wilson Hall and welcomed Americans, both black and white, to come to South Africa Tuesday night.

"The South Africa of today knows no color, it was built by all of us, black and white," Mandela said in a richly accented color, it was built by all of us, black and white, "We must build a society where all can live in peace and freedom," she said.

"The future is ours," Mandela said, "The past belongs to our fathers and mothers, let's move on to the future that belongs to us, the youth of South Africa."

Mandela, a self-described "simple woman" who became a freedom fighter in the forefront of the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, was honored by JMU students, faculty and staff Tuesday night in Wilson about the struggles in her life.

Mandela said she and her husband Nelson Mandela were "lucky" to be free after years of imprisonment. The couple was married in 1958, and Nelson Mandela was released from prison in February 1990 following a struggle of more than 27 years. Nelson Mandela was later elected the first black president of South Africa.

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POLICE LOG

CAMPUS POLICE REPORT

STEVEN LANDRY

Police reporter

Campus Police report the following:

POSSESSION OF A SCHEDULED NARCOTIC DRUG
- Non-student Jorge L. Ortiz, 39, of Harrisonburg, was arrested and charged with possession of a scheduled drug in X-Ton on Jan. 8 at 10:50 p.m.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL
- Non-student Karl E. Gautcher, 18, of Harrisonburg, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol on Dec. 29 at 3:08 a.m. near the intersection of Bluestone Drive and Carrier Drive.
- Non-student Waled Negm, 27, of McGaheysville, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol.

Vehicle Accident
- Non-student Karl E. Gautcher, 18, of Harrisonburg, was involved in a vehicle accident on Dec. 20 at 3:08 a.m. near the intersection of Bluestone Drive and Carrier Drive. Gautcher lost control of his vehicle and struck a tree.

Underage Possession of Alcohol
- Christopher Hines, 19, of Virginia Beach, was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol near Godwin Hall on Dec. 10 at 12:20 a.m. after being observed jumping out the back emergency exit door of the Party Line bus holding a can of beer and appearing unsteady.
- Brent W. Gardner, 18, of Sykesville, Md., was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol near Dec. 9 at 11:50 p.m. near Port Republic Road.

The Breeze is published Monday and Thursday mornings and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Courtney A. Cartes, editor.

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Susan Shiflett, x8089

LOCATION
The Breeze is located in the lower level of Anthony-Seeger Hall.

WEATHER
FRIDAY: Mostly cloudy, high 41°F, low 33°F
SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, high 53°F, low 29°F
SUNDAY: Sunny, high 57°F, low 33°F
MONDAY: Sunny, high 53°F, low 30°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 at The Breeze office.
Gilmore proposes tuition cut

Plan could save students $400 in costs

BRIAN WESTLEY
Senior writer

Tuition expenses at JMU could be reduced by nearly $400 for in-state students next year if Gov. Jim Gilmore gets his way.

Gilmore has proposed a 20-percent tuition cut at Virginia's public colleges and universities for in-state students. JMU's tuition (not including student fees) this year is $1,982, and would be $1,586 under Gilmore's plan, a savings of $396.

"During the past 15 years, tuition and fees have increased 78 percent at our comprehensive four-year institutions," Gilmore said in a statement. "We must make college affordable for all Virginians, and that is why I am proposing a tuition rollback.

Gilmore's proposed tuition cuts are possible due to an $868 million state budget surplus last year, said Ryan Frazier, Gilmore's assistant press secretary. The surplus is largely a result of Virginia's growing economy, Frazier said. Although JMU will receive less money from tuition under Gilmore's proposal, the plan calls for the state to reimburse JMU with nearly $4 million dollars to offset the decrease in tuition, according to figures supplied by the Office of the Governor. Overall, the state will spend $75 million to reimburse Virginia colleges and universities. "We will reimburse colleges dollar for dollar," Frazier said. "Colleges will have the same amount of money."

Gilmore's plan will only cut tuition costs. Frazier said, JMU's tuition is the second lowest of Virginia's 15 four-year colleges, according to numbers released by the Office of the Governor. Gilmore's plan will not reduce student fees and room and board expenses.

JMU's student fees and room and board expenses are the second most expensive in the state, according to Oct. 1 Breeze article.

"I think it's great there's a plan to lower tuition," junior Rebecca Shaw said. "But, it doesn't seem like all that much money, especially since our other fees are so high."

Fred Hilton, director of media relations, said the university is optimistic about the governor's proposal. "We would endorse any way possible to lower tuition," Hilton said. "Along with that, it's vital that the funds be replaced in some other fashion. Under Gilmore's proposal, budgets would be increased accordingly."

Hilton said the proposal marks the reversal of a trend in higher education that places more of the financial burden on individuals rather than the state. "The financial burden has shifted from state to individual funding, and this would be a good step to shift it back a little bit," Hilton said.

Gilmore's proposal will be debated in a House of Delegates committee this week, Frazier said. The Education Committee is most likely to oversee the proposal, he said. The plan will then be presented to the full House, and if the House passes it, the state Senate will consider it.

"[Gilmore] believes Republicans and Democrats alike would love to see tuition cut," Frazier said.

Students like sophomore Dorothy Messerschmidt have generally greeted the proposal with optimism. "I hope both [Democrats and Republicans] can agree on this plan," she said. "I'm taking out student loans each year and the expenses really add up."

Del. Glenn Weatherholtz (R), who represents Harrisonburg in the House of Delegates, said he is optimistic Gilmore's plan will pass, said John Elledge, Weatherholtz's legislative assistant. But it remains to be seen whether or not the House and Senate will be bipartisan on Gilmore's proposal, Elledge said.

State Senator Kevin Miller (R), who also represents Harrisonburg, said through a spokesperson that he also favors Gilmore's bill.

Developer says housing plan is friendly to environment

BRAD JENKINS
News editor

The developer building a student housing complex on Neff Avenue is taking steps to make sure the complex doesn't interfere with the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum.

Kevin Williams, regional manager of Harrisonburg's Forbes Development, said this week that despite environmental concerns that have been voiced in the media, the complex won't interfere with the 125-acre arboretum.

Stonegate will have 14 buildings similar in design to South View apartments on Lois Lane. The complex, at which four buildings will be ready by fall, will be parallel to the arboretum.

"We know that's a sensitive issue," Forbes said. "We tried to do as much as possible to make sure there wasn't any runoff or erosion problems." Forbes was responding to concerns that the arboretum Director Norlyn Bodkin projected in the last Breeze of the fall semester.

Bodkin said flooding at the arboretum could occur because of water runoff from the complex.

Williams said Forbes has taken steps to decrease the chance for water runoff. For example, a building that was originally planned to have no parking lot between it and the arboretum will now have a parking lot that will separate it from the edge of the arboretum, which will help with runoff.

Any runoff will be collected in a pond downhill from the units, which will be adjacent to Neff Avenue.

Williams also said, "We understand it's going to be visible, but we do what we can to minimize the impact," he said.

Williams also said the part of the arboretum that the property parallels isn't "the important stuff." The arboretum's greenhouse and mulch storage is the only part of the arboretum parallel to the complex, Williams said.

Gilmore proposes additional money from the surplus to be used in localities across the state to fund education and public safety, Frazier said.

From a national perspective, Gilmore's proposed tuition cuts bring the cost of attending Virginia schools closer to the national average. Now, tuition at Virginia schools is 30 percent higher than the national average, Frazier said. But with the 20 percent cuts, Virginia tuition costs will be within 10 percent of the national plan, he said.

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Winter break-ins

Time off proves costly for some; more than 30 off-campus apartments burglarized during break

KATE SPRINGER
Senior writer

Students reported more than 30 break-ins in off-campus apartments after returning from winter break.

"The break-ins were basically widespread over all of the JMU off-campus apartment complexes," Lt. Richard Sites, Harrisonburg Police Department spokesman, said. Sites wouldn't release specific streets where the break-ins occurred.

Sites said the number of break-ins is consistent with those reported in previous years.

Senior Courtney Stone said her Forest Hills townhouse broke into after a maintenance worker saw the door of their second floor deck ajar during break.

Stone said the perpetrators ransacked the apartment and stole two laptop computers, a printer, a stereo, a receiver, three book bags and some jewelry, although other valuables such as CD players were passed over.

"My room was trashed," she said. "Everything was just dumped," she said.

Junior Andrea Polizzi's Ashby Crossing apartment was also burglarized. The perpetrator came into her roommate's room, she said. "Her room was kind of trashed because they broke the window," Polizzi said.

Polizzi said she thinks the break-in was odd because the only items that were missing were a cordless phone and a VCR, while five TVs and five stereos among other valuables weren't touched, she said.

Junior Amy Mullen's Hunter's Ridge apartment was also broken into. "We had some random things taken," she said. They had definitely gone through our drawers.

Sites said some burglars pick and choose which items to take from an apartment. "Some burglars have better knowledge of jewelry, some have better knowledge of electronics, some have no knowledge at all," he said.

Sites said the chance of solving the break-ins is about 50/50. "It all depends on the amount of evidence," he said.

Sites said police aren't sure if any of the break-ins are related. "It could easily have been more than one person or group," he said.

Sites said students should lock all doors and windows, closing curtains and taking all valuables home during long breaks.

HPD thinks that some perpetrators attend student parties in order to "shop," Sites said.
## LET'S EAT!

**this week in d-hall...**

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Bridge closing disrupts traffic

JENNY STROMANN  Senior writer

Reservoir Street Bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down. Well, it's being taken down and worked on, and that has caused some traffic headaches and sleepless nights among students.

The bridge's current two-lane size won't reach over Interstate-81's planned expansion into eight lanes. More Bros. from Verona will build the new $4.8 million Reservoir Street bridge, said Resident Virginia Department of Transportation Engineer Don Komara.

No date has been set for the widening project on I-81, Komara said.

"With all these roads and bridges crossing I-81, there's a lot to adjust and widen," Komara said. "And Harrisonburg is seen as a hot spot, a top priority for I-81 widening."

Demolition work on the closed Reservoir Street bridge will close one southbound lane with periodic fifteen minute shutdowns of the other lane tonight, said Doshia Morris, public relations assistant specialist for the VDOT.

The traffic changes began Tuesday night on I-81's northbound lanes. These shutdowns will continue on both north- and southbound lanes until February or March depending on weather and will resume in July, according to a VDOT statement.

The demolition work will only occur between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Updates on the construction work are available on the radio at 1610 AM.

The new four-lane Reservoir Street Bridge is slated to open for traffic in November, Paul Schacht, Harrisonburg's civil engineer, said. Reservoir Street will also be widened to four lanes between Neff Avenue and Cantrell Avenue, Schacht said.

The street's widening is scheduled for completion in November.

Schacht said the heavy amount of traffic on Reservoir Street and the projected usage of the CISAT campus prompted the work.

Reservoir Street is currently open west of I-81 between Cantrell Avenue and Eastover Drive.

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Schacht said he projects traffic on Market Street will be heavier now that Reservoir Street Bridge is closed.

Students wanting to get from the mall area to campus can travel down University Boulevard to the entrance of the CISAT campus.

Some students who travel on the road and some who live in the area of the construction said the work is an inconvenience.

"You have to go around town to get to the other side," Kevin Swilley, a sophomore computer science major, said.

Holly Williams, a special education graduate student, lives in Dutch Mill Court, which is near the bridge construction. "It feels like they're in my room," she said. "I haven't slept in the last three nights."

Towing policy irks some residents at off-campus apartment complex

ARCIA APPERSON  Staff writer

College Park-Ashby Crossing residents have noticed an addition in the parking lots this semester — tow trucks.

The apartment complex has a contract with Teter's Exxon which allows them to randomly patrol the parking lots and tow cars with sticker violations.

Ashby is patrolled seven days a week from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. "This is when the parking problem is the most significant," said Joe Sirico, general manager at Teter's Exxon.

Resident complaints about visitors parking in assigned spaces last year led to the policy. Lesley Thompson, property manager, said.

There are 1,152 residents in Ashby apartments, Thompson said. "We make sure that the residents have adequate parking when they come home late at night. They are our first concern."

The procedure is the same every night. Teter's sends trucks out to patrol the lot. A car must have an Ashby resident sticker or a visitor parking permit, unless it is parked in a guest spot. If a car doesn't have a valid sticker it will be towed, Sirico said.

"We're not out to get anybody," Sirico said.

"The guest lot gets full pretty much every night," Cramer said. "It's the last three nights."

Resident Virginia Department of Transportation Engineer Don Komara. No date has been set for the widening project on I-81, Komara said.

"With all these roads and bridges crossing I-81, there's a lot to adjust and widen," Komara said. "And Harrisonburg is seen as a hot spot, a top priority for I-81 widening."

Demolition work on the closed Reservoir Street bridge will close one southbound lane with periodic fifteen minute shutdowns of the other lane tonight, said Doshia Morris, public relations assistant specialist for the VDOT.

The traffic changes began Tuesday night on I-81's northbound lanes. These shutdowns will continue on both north- and southbound lanes until February or March depending on weather and will resume in July, according to a VDOT statement.

The demolition work will only occur between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Updates on the construction work are available on the radio at 1610 AM.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KATIE MORROW AT X6613
Impeachment sparks anger in ousted officers

IMPEACHMENT, from page 1

"I definitely think there would have been a different outcome if Lauren hadn't been on the panel," Montalto said. "The bigger issue with that is that she could have influenced votes. People don't like to be the dissenting vote."

Herman defended her decision to keep Hendricks on the panel. "Chris Neff was going to be part of the panel, but then I re-thought it," she said.

Montalto said, "We were still not happy she was on there. Heather Herman's role was to be an unbiased mediator. Her job is to create a sense of equality here."

Emry said Montalto and Hertz didn't object to Hendricks being on the panel until after they were removed. "[Herman] told them that [Hendricks] was going to be on it and at that point they didn't have a problem," Emry said.

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POLICE LOG, from page 2

possession of alcohol on Dec. 12 at 12:30 a.m.
• Non-student Jack T. Gibson, 20, of Phoenixville, Pa., was arrested and charged with underage possession of alcohol in G-lot on Dec. 13 at 12:30 a.m.

Burglary
• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole six PlayStation games, 120 CDs and a wallet from a room in White Hall on Dec. 9 at 3:16 p.m.
The room was unsecured and unattended for periods of time. The stolen items were valued at $2,000.

Grand Larceny
• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a Clarion FM/AM/CD stereo radio worth $500 and five CDs, valued at $75 from a Jeep Wrangler in Z-lot on Dec. 8 between 9:10 and 10:50 a.m.
• Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a JVC AM/FM/CD stereo radio worth $500 and five CDs, valued at $75 from a Jeep Wrangler in Z-lot on Dec. 8 between 9:10 and 10:50 a.m.

Destruction of Public Property
• Unidentified individuals allegedly kicked or hit the glass door of Ikenberry Hall, causing it to "spider web" on Dec. 12 between 2 and 3:15 a.m.
• Unidentified individuals allegedly cut down a large holly tree outside the Kappa Sigma fraternity house on Dec. 12 at 11:11 p.m.
A Kappa Sigma resident observed three white males wearing dark clothing cutting down the tree. The individuals fled toward Port Road when they realized they were being observed.
• Unidentified individuals allegedly broke the windows and cut but did not remove the screens of two rooms of Chappelear Hall between Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. and Jan. 10 at 2:14 p.m.
Two other screens of Chappelear Hall were found torn or cut, but the windows were not broken.

Destruction of Personal Property
• Unidentified individuals allegedly broke windows, smashed outside mirrors, and damaged the inside of six cars parked in the Convocation Center's A-lot between Dec. 11 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 12 at 8:30 a.m.
Five of the six cars were readily identifiable as belonging to either players or managers of the women's basketball team.
• Unidentified individuals allegedly scratched two cars in-lot behind Baker House on Dec. 11 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.
• Unidentified individuals allegedly slashed tires and broke outside mirrors on three vehicles parked on Potomac Hall Boulevard walkway between Dec. 11 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 12 at 8:30 a.m.

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POLICE LOG, from page 9

Service Drive on Dec. 18 between 3 and 8 a.m.
- Unidentified individuals allegedly "egged" several cars in the Convocation Center parking lot between Dec. 18 at 12 p.m. and Dec. 26 at 3:30 p.m.
- Unidentified individuals allegedly broke a picture frame and damaged a bulletin board in Logan Hall between Dec. 18 and Jan. 10.

Petty Larceny
- Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a metal literature rack for bus schedules from the Godwin Bus terminal between Dec. 8 at 5 p.m. and Dec. 9 at 8 a.m.
- Unidentified individuals allegedly stole Pennsylvania license plate "JMU DUKE" from a car parked on Driver Drive near UREC on Dec. 12 between 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
- Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a hub cap from a 1991 Chevrolet parked in the Bluestone Drive and Carrier Drive on Dec. 18 between 6:30 a.m. and 9:05 p.m.
- Unidentified individuals allegedly stole a Managerial Accounting textbook worth $45 from Zane Showker Hall on Dec. 16 between 11 a.m. and 12:06 p.m.
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Tampering
- An odor in the Frye Building was investigated on Jan. 11 at 2:34 p.m.
- A burst water valve and coil in the Convocation Center ceiling caused an odor of smoke in Logan Hall on Dec. 8 at 9:56 p.m.

Unauthorized Entry to Vehicles
- Unidentified individuals are suspected to have allegedly entered vehicles in Z-lot on Jan. 3 at 10:50 p.m.

Recovered Stolen Property
- A two-piece metal JMU sign was found in a resident's room in Ikenberry Hall on Dec. 18 at 2:30 p.m.
- Footprints in snow ended around two parked vehicles that had apparently been entered.

Driving With Suspended Operator's License
- Karl E. Gauthier, 18, of Harrisonburg, was arrested and charged with driving with a suspended operator's license near Bluestone Drive and Carrier Drive on Dec. 29 at 3:08 a.m.

Trespassing
- Brian R. Shoemaker, 18, of Broadway, was arrested and charged with trespassing in Z-lot on Dec. 13 at 4:20 a.m.
- Clint A. Cash II, 18, of Broadway, was arrested and charged with trespassing in Z-lot on Dec. 13 at 4:20 a.m.
- A juvenile was arrested for trespassing near the rear of Spotswood Hall on Dec. 16 at 3:48 p.m.

Mutual Aid Assist
- A JMU officer on patrol in Hunter's Ridge discovered two non-residents acting nervous and got their identification on Jan. 3 at 6:45 p.m.

Arrest for Other Agency
- Clarence T. Whitelow, Jr., 37, was arrested after a campus police officer suspected he was drinking and driving and pulled him over on Jan. 8 at 8:56 p.m.
- Whitlow was discovered to be wanted on a bench warrant issued to the Rockingham County Sheriff. The subject was transported to the Rockingham County Jail.

Fraud
- An investigation of corporate purchasing card fraud was opened on Jan. 7 at 9:15 a.m.

Vehicle Tampering
- Unidentified individuals allegedly tampered with a vehicle in Z-lot on Dec. 20 between 6:30 a.m. and 9:05 p.m.
- No known items were removed from the vehicle.

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when the Breeze hires an editor-in-chief for the next school year
TOWING, from page 5

"This is not something that creates income," Thompson said. "We don't want money. Our whole reason for doing it is to prevent a parking problem for our residents."

Yost said she doesn't want to risk being towed anymore. When she visits friends in Ashby she either parks at Dairy Queen, gets somebody to pick her up or rides the bus. "It is really inconvenient," Yost said.

Cramer suggested the towing company first give a warning to people who are illegally parked too long.

But the towing company does a random patrol and has no idea how long a car without a sticker has been parked in a spot, Thompson said.

There are 13 signs posted at the entrances of Ashby that serve as a warning to anyone parking on the property. When a driver enters the private property from any public road, such as Port Republic Road or Devon Lane, they will see one of these warning signs about towing being enforced, Thompson said.

"Bodies aren't the only things that can become paralyzed," Fortier said. "Fate paralyzes bodies, but despair paralyzes our minds and that can be a more debilitating handicap. If they can do it, I can do it and if I can do it, you can do it."

Math and Science Sen. Melissa Bramhall said hearing Fortier speak contained a message that the Senate needed to hear.

In his speech, Fortier said his high-pitched voice has been described in many ways, including as a "screaming falsetto." Fortier spoke on his personal struggle to turn his voice into an asset, rather than a topic of ridicule.

"I don't think that her problems are small in comparison to others."

While Fortier said he has no plans to pursue a career in motivational speaking, he will be giving his speech again next week at the Residence Hall Association meeting for hall presidents on Tuesday.

"I hope this speech will tell [people] they can make a difference, no matter how small," Fortier said.

The SGA also discussed the annual SGA book sale which will run from Jan. 18 through 20 from 11 to 5 p.m., in Taylor room 405. Drop-off dates for used textbooks will be Wednesday through Saturday, from 11 to 5 p.m. in Taylor room 405.

A finance bill from Alpha Phi Omega fraternity requesting funding from the Senate for conference fees was killed in committee, Sen. Mike Farris, chairman of the finance committee, said.

Parris said the organization had additional funds in a reserve account that could be used for the fees, therefore the committee determined that "all avenues of fundraising had not been exhausted."
Time to study like it's 1999...

For the next few weeks, students will struggle to remain faithful to the promises they made to themselves on New Year's Eve — that this will finally be the year that they will study harder, drink less, exercise more or become better organized and more prepared for life in general. In the spirit of this optimistic and hopeful time, we've also reflected upon the last year spent at JMU and have developed a few resolutions we'd like to see implemented along with the perennial favorites:

1) Take the Honor Code seriously

Wait, wait — before you skim over to the next page, you should know that cheating is probably one of the most important resolutions we as students should follow. Lately, cheating on exams and plagiarizing others' work for papers and projects typically garner more admiration and respect for the violator's creativity than it does outrage. Students should never condone this behavior, much less envy violators. Breaking the Honor Code might seem like an efficient way to receive a higher grade at the time of the violation, but the consequences will follow long after the action, even if you're not caught. “Everyone else does it” shouldn't be a valid excuse: Be the better person and do your own work. And if this doesn't move you, think about how much it angers you when you're the one who got the A the hard way when some slacker cheated their way to an A.

2) Class attendance: You're either there or you're not

There is one of these people in every class: They stumble into class 10 minutes after the professor begins a lecture and scurry out after the attendance sheet has been passed around, usually scraping their chair around loudly and tripping over people's bookbags as they depart. Granted, most people have the common sense not to do this in a class numbering under 30 people, but a few always try. Unless you have a legitimate reason to be late or leave early, don't do it. Going to class usually requires some form of concentration. Instead, sit there and try to decipher the cryptic etchings on your desk, look out the window or hey, maybe even take notes. But if you do decide to go to class, spare us and don't do it halfway.

3) Attend more sporting events and/or display school spirit

Athletic events for all JMU students are free. To our opinion, you can't beat that with a stick. Students at other universities have to wait on line in the snow and rain to compete for tickets, especially for basketball. Maybe we're not a contender for the Final Four, but being a real fan means cheering for your school during the good seasons and the less-than-memorable ones. Students who want JMU to become more nationally-recognized should be advised one of the best ways to do this is through athletics. So slap that JMU sticker on your windshield and head out to one of the basketball games this weekend.

4) Take your grades more or less seriously (you know which group you fall into)

In the prophetic words of the character Ferris Bueller, “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in awhile, you could miss it.” Indeed. Too often we see our grade-point averages and class ranking as the key to acceptance to graduate school or the ultimate career. Honestly, 20 years from now you probably won't remember much from your introductory psychology course, much less that you received an A- instead of an A. But you will remember the time you took a break from working on your marathon research paper to go skiing with friends, to volunteer at Mercy House or make a late-night visit to Waffle House. At the same time, there's another group of students for whom time always slips away from them, not in a positive way. Those are the individuals who could best be described as “recreational studying” who appear in the library during finals week for the first time all semester. We encourage those of you who fall under this category to strive a bit harder this year. Familiarize yourself with the library floor plan. Read assigned chapters before the night preceding an exam. At the very least, don't let your weekend start until Thursday night instead of Wednesday.

Topic: What was your most outrageous New Year’s resolution this year?

CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

Brian Snyder
sophomore, SCOM

Jim Ciocco
sophomore, public administration junior, SCOM

Jill Santora
senior, undeclared

Sarah Whitlock
senior, undeclared

“The to be able to grow sideburns.”

“To have the apartment fairy come and fix everything in my apartment.”

“To stop helping my friend with her photo assignments for The Breeze.”

“Stay procrastinating with my schoolwork.”

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Professor responds on grade inflation issue

I

In the Dec. 3 issue of The Breeze, a student was quoted as taking a Principles of Economics course in which a professor allegedly lowered the grade distribution after an exam had a highest grade of 74 so that “one can get an A just by getting a 59.” The next day the Harrisonburg Daily News-Record editorialized that this exemplified grade inflation at JMU was yet another reason why tenure should be abolished. In the Dec. 10 issue, The Breeze editorially defended JMU faculty by arguing that there is no grade inflation because today’s students are much better than those of the mid-1960s.

The incident at the base of this exchange may have happened in my class last semester. On the third exam the highest grade was 72 out of 100, with a 59 being a B. But on that exam there were more Fs than A’s given and the exam grade-point average was less than 2.0, hardly a case of grade inflation. I announce at the beginning of each semester that I give hard tests like those taken in the College of William & Mary. Formerly I have defended JMU faculty by arguing that there is no grade inflation because SAT scores are higher for JMU students than for those of 30 years ago. But during the last several years, quite a few faculty members have noticed a dramatic decline in performance by students. I saw this last semester.

In the course allegedly reported on in The Breeze, the class performance on the final exam was the single worst on any exam I have ever seen since I began teaching at JMU. Only one student out of 73 got higher than a 58 out of 100; the median was below 40 and the final course GPA less than 2.0. This exam was no more difficult than what I’ve given in the past. I don’t think my teaching methods are significantly different than in the past. Therefore, the claim that today’s students at JMU are better than in the past falls to persuade me.

There is not in general a positive relation between GPAs and performance by majors in terms of starting salaries after graduation or rates of acceptance into graduate programs. Indeed the evidence is quite the contrary. Programs and majors that generate the lowest GPAs are those where majors get the highest starting salaries and rates of acceptance into graduate programs. Those are — surprise — the tougher and more intellectually challenging majors. JMU does not publish department level overall GPAs. But while the overall GPAs in economics courses are well below the JMU average, our majors last year had the highest starting salaries of any program in the College of Business (whose starting salaries are above the JMU average). The Economics Department also had the highest rate of acceptance of its seniors into graduate programs from the College of Business.

JMU has a grade inflation problem and many parties and policies are responsible for its emergence. In the early 1990s, the acceptance rate into JMU was between 30 and 40 percent while today it is 54.7 percent. Many observers think that 50 percent is a critical cutoff between schools of basically higher and lower quality. Apparently many faculty members have offered higher grades either because they thought they were deserved, or that this fit a national trend or because they were seeking better student evaluations in hope of larger pay increases or improved chances of tenure or promotion. The latter would not be a problem if administrators maintained standards and took account of course difficulty and GPAs in evaluating teaching.

Another problem in recent years has been a general attitude by the administration that the role of faculty is to “please the customers.” Thus, faculty have felt pressure to raise grades when students’ parents complain. Programs and departments have been rewarded with resources for attracting students through easy grading. In addition, requirements for students to take more difficult courses to complete majors have been reduced and there has been a reduction of the intellectual content of parts of the curriculum, notably in conjunction with the implementation of the General Education Program, never approved of by the general faculty. In some colleges, courses now being taken by all freshmen majors in Cluster One packages were originally designed to be offered to non-majors due to their recognized weaker intellectual content.

Unfortunately chickens have a way of coming home to roost. In the November 13, 1998 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education, JMU showed up on a list of the nation’s 10 “most overrated colleges.” I think that the basis of this particular claim was unfair. But if we continue to have a deterioration of curriculum, standards and student quality, especially after all the...
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Things got pretty competitive for this job. I'm sure my college degree and good grades kept me in the running. But in the end it was the leadership and management experience I got through Army ROTC that won them over. Army ROTC taught me responsibility, self-discipline and leadership. Those are things you just can't learn from a textbook. I don't know where I'd be right now if I hadn't enrolled in Army ROTC, but I do know one thing for sure...I wouldn't be here.

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Classes aren’t the only source of knowledge and growth

College is a seven letter word with a basic definition: an education. Yet if you ask any JMU student to define college, each response would probably be different, none of which would simply be "an education."

For me, defining college is a challenge. As a senior, I have reflected on my four years in college and have come up with my own definition: It is an experience that causes one to grow, change, learn and mature. The classes, the parties and the hard work, all that has encapsulated college, has led me to this definition. And the conclusion I’ve also come to is that college has meant much more to me than just hitting the books.

Growing and changing in college is inevitable. It’s what causes you to do so that makes your experience unique. It might be going through a few majors until you find the right one. It could be that you dealt with a tough roommate situation successfully. It might be that you were introverted as a freshman, but have met so many wonderful people throughout your years here that you have become a social butterfly. Whatever the case may be, you do grow and you do change. And you may not even realize it. In the midst of all this, you are of course, learning; working toward that degree. Your classes can push you to your limits. With tests, papers and projects, the work can seem never-ending and sometimes overwhelming. Yet looking back now, I don’t regret the all-nighters I pulled or the long hours spent in the stacks of Carrier Library. What I do regret are the times I considered quitting or the times I didn’t give it my all.

Besides the academics, there is a different kind of education that is encompassed by the college experience: learning life’s lessons. You may learn that you have a lot in common with someone from a different culture. You might learn that you can’t trust everyone. Or you may learn that the friendships you’ve made will last a lifetime. Through all of the late night talks, the parties, the heart-to-hearts, the lunches at D-hall, the road trips, the relationships, the football games, the retreats and the dates, you learn about people, and in turn you learn about life. The people I’ve met have certainly made an impact on my outlook. And it is now as I am about to close the doors on my college career that I realize just how much each person has meant to me.

Now I look at the real world, I stare it right in the face. I’m not sure what lies ahead. I do know that my experiences here at JMU have prepared me well for my future. I have matured here, and the maturity I’ve gained is embodied by the situations I’ve dealt with, the classes I’ve taken and the people I’ve come across. I’ve put myself to the test, and the diploma I will receive soon will prove that I passed.

There is a quote by Kahlil Gibran that I frequently use: "Work is love made visible." Someone once asked me what it meant and I couldn’t explain it. I just knew that I believed in what it said. But now as I remember my years as an undergrad, I know that I can describe what the quote means to me. It means that if you work toward a goal and attain it, the love you have for yourself and for others will shine through that work. I believe my college experience, the JMU experience, has related to this idea time and time again. And I hope other students will be able to identify with this quote as well when they reflect on their college career.

Jackie Cisternino is a senior double English and SMAD major and the assistant style/feature editor.

Grade inflation not as rampant as reported

PROFESSOR, from page 15

such stories appear, serious damage will accrue to the value of degrees obtained by students from JMU.

I am pleased that the current administration is exhibiting concern about the problem of grade inflation, if not necessarily about all other aspects of the larger problem. But it must be understood that it was the tenured faculty through the Faculty Senate who initiated the concern about grade inflation. It was also the faculty who’ve expressed concern about the other components of this problem, such as curriculum quality, not the denizens of Wilson Hall. If the DN-R editorialists had had their way, this problem would have gotten much worse and the current reputation of JMU would be much lower then it is today. Let us hope that we are now at a turn-around point and that we shall see improvement on all these fronts in the future.

J. Barkley Rosser, Jr. is a professor of economics.
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Explore the intercultural aspects of organizational communication in France.

Approximate program cost:  
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For more information, contact the JMU Office of International Education,  
Hillcrest House, 2nd floor, e-mail Dr. Yook at yookel@jmu.edu, or  
stop by the JMU Summer Study Abroad Fair: TODAY, 11am - 2pm, Taylor 306.
Court Square right on all angles

Theatre stresses on quality with art films, plays and musicians

Jennifer Baker, senior writer

The Court Square Theatre is more than a theatre. The theatre is an experience.

Located in the heart of Harrisonburg, it is hard to imagine the 250-seat theatre was once a car garage. But moldings taken from outside the building and recast as wall-hangings, bearing the initials RMC of the Rockingham Motor Car Company, pay tribute to downtown’s past and pave the way for the future.

Opened last May, the theatre is helping to lead the way as part of downtown’s cultural revitalization. The venue offers a deviation from many of Harrisonburg’s attractions, offering a variety of films, plays and musical performances that are far from mainstream.

The theatre has an impressive line-up for the months ahead, ranging from the current period film, "Elizabeth," to productions by Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, and a performance by the 10,000 Maniacs, among many other events.

The theatre features films that are not blockbusters, but are of a high quality and lean toward the artistic side. Tickets for movies are priced at $5.50 for adults and $4 for students, children and senior citizens.

JMU Junior Matt Parowski, a Court Square Theatre employee since May, says, "The theatre tries to show movies that are more artistic than are seen at the Valley Mall. Quality films, that have some art content, not just movies for the masses."

Showing currently is "Elizabeth," a period piece with a difference which is scoring well with the critics. "Elizabeth" is showing tonight at 6 p.m. A discussion group will be held at the Artful Dodger coffeehouse after the movie.

Starting this Friday, Orson Wells’ "Touch of Evil" will be featured for an indefinite period of time. Show times are 7 and 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 and 7 p.m. on Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Other upcoming films, not slated for exact times yet, include "Shakespeare in Love," "Waking Ned Divine" and "Life is Beautiful."

Besides entertainment on screen, actors from Shenandoah Shakespeare Express (SSE) will take the stage for two preview performances in January.

On Jan. 18, the group will put on their first non-Shakespeare performance from the English Renaissance — "The Knight of the Burning Pestle." The play is a wacky comedy and takes Shakespeare’s idea of amateur theatrics to its highest level. The Jan. 19 performance features the SSE’s second preview of the ever-popular play, "The Merchant of Venice."

For the SSE and other groups, the Court Square Theatre is a blessing as it is a perfect haven for area’s performing arts.

Margo McGirr, marketing director for SSE, says the theatre has filled a void. "It’s a wonderful new contribution to Harrisonburg’s cultural awareness," she says.

McGirr especially feels that students can take advantage of the theatre’s unique events by combining it with dinner or dessert. "[Court Square Theatre] is an awesome place for a date. You can see a high quality film or live theater, have a cup of coffee or dessert at the Artful Dodger, or a microbrew at Calhouns," she said.

In February, an aegis of the Blue Ridge Theatre Festival will come to Court Square, to present Tom Stoppard’s "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead."

The play will be shown Feb. 17-27 from Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices for the plays have not been finalized.

"Among the live music performances, the Court Square Theatre will showcase the talent of rock and roll icon Leon Russell, the 10,000 Maniacs, who will perform with their new singer, Mary Ramsey and Irish performer Maura O’Connell," said Barry Mullen, manager of Court Square Theatre.

Russell will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 24. The star, who has been in the music business for four decades, has left an indelible impact on the music industry and can be credited with helping shape the sounds of rock and roll with his work with Jerry Lee Lewis, the Beatles, Rolling Stones and Bob Dylan.

The 10,000 Maniacs will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 7 and will play a lot of their new work written by Ramsey and new guitarist John Lombardo.

O’Connell who is the self-proclaimed “song interpreter” from Ireland, will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 28.

As Parowski said, the Court Square Theatre offers a lot of variety and substance for students interested in the arts, appealing most to those, "more interested in culture than just pop culture."

Ticket prices for the music events have not been decided but interested parties can contact the Court Square Theatre information line on 433-9189.
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assumed by Jimmy Stewart and assured romantic duo Tom Hanks and a Miklos Laszlo play), placing the structure and occasionally forced connection between her 1993 hit "Sleepless in Seattle" and the classic "An Affair to Remember" was pounded home ad nauseum, and although "You've Got Mail" is a credited remake of Ernst Lubitsch's 1940 romance "The Shop Around the Corner," its lackadaisical comedy leads one to assume Ephron's affection for Golden Age romances blunts her creative edge.

Ephron and her sister Delia adapted the original screenplay (in turn based on a Miklos Laszlo play), placing the assured romantic duo Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in the roles originally assumed by Jimmy Stewart and Margaret Sullivan. Hanks is delightfully low-key in the role of Joe Fox, head honcho of a Barnes & Noble-esque chain threatening every mom-and-pop book shop scattered along the streets of Greenwich Village. Included among these potential vacant storefronts is Kathleen Kelly's (Meg Ryan) quaint children's bookstore. A heavy-duty, media-frenzied duel between the towering giant and the family favorite ensue, as it appears the coffee-laden superstore will gobble up the beloved little shop. What the dueling Fox and Kelly don't know is that their on-line alter egos, NY152 and Shopgirl, are perfect-for-each-other chat partners pondering The question of all on-line relationship questions: "Should we meet?"

It's a given from the start that NY152 and Shopgirl won't meet until the very end, but the problem with this mistaken identity joke is that it has nowhere near the buoyancy to sustain this terribly overlong movie. Their little near-misses walking along New York streets are amusing enough, but the whole show's unsung familiarly with the structure of "Sleepless in Seattle" keep any of it from being fresh or out of the ordinary.

The Ephron sisters do offer a surprising when, before the e-mailers meet, their feuding, real-life counterparts, Fox and Kelly, actually begin to develop a relationship. In these scenes, we're confronted with a woman struggling with her affection for the "Ruiner of Her Life," and a powerful man beginning to realize the cost of his domineering exterior. These moments make sure dramatic sense, infusing "You've Got Mail" with energy and purpose, and earn some real laughs.

Hanks' engaging presence all but compensates for the revoltingly cute Ryan, whose pajama-and-bobby-sock-clad heroine is as numb as they come. Ryan, the Officially Authorized Reincarnation of Doris Day, has all but eradicated her career by accepting one role after another - with a semester membership at Every Body's Gym.

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"YOU'VE GOT MAIL"

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On-Campus Entertainment
A preview of events for the month of January.

Movies
Playing at Grafton-Stovall Theatre:
“Pleasantville” Jan. 29-30.
Tickets for all shows $2

Concerts
Playing at the Convocation Center:
Busta Rhymes
Tickets go on sale tonight at midnight, Warren Hall.
$15 w/JAC card, $20 general public and floor seats.
The concert is Saturday, Jan. 30 at 8 p.m.

Speakers
In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day:
Congressman Kweisi Mfume, president and CEO of the NAACP, will speak at Wilson Hall on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

—from Staff Reports

Welcome Back From JMU Bookstore
• 30% off all calendars
• 20% off all backpacks
Thursday, Jan. 14 - Friday, Jan. 15
8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 16
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Closed
(Resumes regular hours Monday, Jan. 18.)
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Payments made easy. We accept ...
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Attention Style Writers!
There will be a MANDATORY Style section meeting on Monday, Jan. 18 at 5 p.m. New writers welcome.

Busta Rhymes and the Flipmode Squad
Saturday, Jan. 30
8 p.m. in the Convo
Tickets on Sale at Midnight
Come to Warren Hall tonight for Music, prizes, and fun!
Sponsored by UPB
www.jmu.edu/orgs/upb/
Matt Tom rises at 5 a.m. every morning, dons his fatigues and prepares for some of the hardest physical and mental training he's ever endured. He leads his cadets through multi-mile runs, sit-ups and push-ups — most before the sun rises. And then he goes to class.

Tom, commander of the JMU Ranger group within Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), spends seven days a week training to exceed the high standards of ROTC. The Army ROTC program is a combination of academics and hands-on military training. Once a student is trained, he or she has the opportunity to teach other cadets the required ROTC skills.

"The Rangers are trying to produce members who are technically and tactically exceptional," Tom says. Their purpose is to also gain superior military knowledge through physical and mental preparation.

In charge of all 17 members and their activities, Tom, a senior, joined the Rangers as an added challenge during college. "I've never quit anything and I wanted to see if I could do it," Tom says. "But I found out it was far harder than I imagined and required intense dedication."

The Rangers are an organization within JMU's ROTC that competes regionally. Members constantly push themselves to their limits. Joining is voluntary, but there is a required 10-week candidacy period followed by a final qualification week before membership is granted. All standards and intense training, physical and mental, must be completed satisfactorily with no exceptions.

Some of the rigorous standards are 66 push-ups and 74 sit-ups in 2-minute periods, a 13:24 two-mile run, and a five-mile run to be completed in under 40 minutes. There is also a written exam that candidates must pass with at least a 70 percent. The exam tests military concepts taught over a 10-week period during classes meant specifically for Rangers. Candidates must attend two of three study sessions each week, focusing on maintaining academic excellence.

Most of the Rangers are contracted to serve in the military after graduation, although it is not required. Junior Andrew Burgess says being a part of the Rangers will "give me an edge over everyone due to the discipline and leadership skills I have learned."

Like most of the group, Burgess says joining was the best decision he has ever made. "I joined my freshman year, and it was the first 'college experience' I had at JMU," Burgess says. "Not only have I found lifetime friends, but I think the program is the most prestigious on campus due to the leaders I have come across through the Rangers."

Once a year the Rangers compete in the Ranger Challenge that takes place in Virginia. Thirty teams from different colleges in the region put their skills to the test in seven events. All members compete the JMU Rangers, sending an 'A' Team and a 'B' team. JMU Rangers have won the competition eight of the last 10 years, defeating teams from the Virginia Military Institute and Virginia Tech. This competition truly shows that their hard work and dedication has paid off.

Training for the fall challenge includes 6.2 mile runs and rope bridge practices. A "ruck run" is completed in uniform with a sack of approximately 30 pounds on their backs (the ruck). "We also train after hours on our own by lifting weights or other physical exercises," Tom says.

Normal physical training (PT) is four to six days a week from 5:30-7 a.m. Tom oversees these sessions and all the other Ranger activities. Other members hold high-ranking positions. The 'ST' is a position for women who are also required on the team.

"The Rangers are a family," Tom says. "The men are our brothers and the women are our sisters."

Previously in the ROTC program, women were not allowed in the Rangers. They begged the program to change the policy, and it has. "Women are now allowed, and it has changed the Ranger program," Tom says. "But all women are working extra hard to prove that they belong and that they are equal to men."

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FOCUS

THE RANGERS

PHOTOS BY CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER LAURA CREECY

motion which entails paperwork and attendance.
the position of "S4" oversees all supplies.
Freshmen to seniors are eligible for membership.
There are different standards for women,
mainly to their physical capabilities, "Tom
explains, "due to differences in body size and
ight."

Along with training and competitions, the
Rangers are also a social group. "We're all a bunch
competitors who don't like to lose," Tom says.

May '97 graduate Mike Loomis admits the
Ranger house, located on Port Republic Road, is the
place he visits when he comes back to JMU.

Some members who have already served in the
armed forces still maintain the Ranger training is
the toughest training they have ever been through.
Senior Daniel Kasabian entered JMU as a sopho-
more after having enlisted the year before. "I
had already been through basic training, so I never
imagined that it would be so difficult," Kasabian
says. "I wanted to prove something to myself, and
other members of my candidacy class have
gone my best friends in the process," he says.

Besides required activities, some Rangers spend
the together participating in activities like rock
climbing. They also donate their time
to security and UPB-sponsored events.

The Rangers maintain being part of the group
requires intense dedication as well as physical and
Not sure what to do this summer?

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568-6419, intl_ed@jmu.edu, www.jmu.edu/intl-ed/
Overtime in the New Year

9-6 Dukes host VCU in CAA battle Saturday at Convo

SETH BURTON
sports editor

While most students arrived back in Harrisonburg earlier this week to get back to work, the JMU men's basketball team has been literally working overtime in compiling a 9-6 overall record (2-3 in the CAA). Four of the Dukes' five CAA games have needed an extra session, including a 67-58 Jan. 2 win over UNC-Wilmington and a 73-57 defeat of East Carolina University Jan. 9.

The Dukes ran out of gas Monday night in their third overtime game in nine days, as they squandered a 13-point second half lead and let the Spiders creep back into the game and pull away in the extra session, 76-69.

"We let them come back," freshman forward Tim Lyle said. "We need to put teams away at the end. We could've put away ODU, and we lost to CMU like that." Head coach Sherman Dillard expressed some of the same frustrations, as the Dukes out-rebounded the smaller Spiders, but shot just 39 percent from the floor.

"We're disappointed but not devastated," Dillard said. "We can't let one loss bring ourselves down. Richmond came up with two big-time baskets [at the end of regulation]."

As the George Mason University Patriots, defeated JMU 83-81 in overtime Dec. 5, streak to an undefeated start in CAA play, the Dukes are hoping to start a little run of their own and gain some ground in conference. The Dukes face CAA opponent Virginia Commonwealth University Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at the Convocation Center in a game that will be televised on HTS-TV.

I feel that they will respond in a positive way," Dillard said about his team yesterday morning. "We know how we got in that situation. Now we've dealt with that loss, it's time to move on."

The Rams come to Harrisonburg with a 7-9 overall record but could provide match-up problems for the Dukes with their freshmen tandem of Reggie Okosa and Shawn Hampton. Lamarr Taylor provides the Rams with a scoring threat.

The Dukes scoring has usually come from the expected sources, as senior forward Chatney Howard leads JMU with a 15.2 average. Although the Spiders held Howard to 10 points on 4-11 shooting, Howard lit up UNC-Wilmington for 20 points to secure the Dukes' first conference win of the season Jan. 2, and is shooting 41 percent from the field.

Howard led the way for the Dukes on the West Coast road trip where they defeated California Irvine University 71-57 and lost to California State-Northridge University, 77-64 Dec. 20 and 22.

"It was an opportunity to get away during the break," Dillard said. "It's all about learning lessons, and I think we learned some."

Lyle has learned the most lessons this season has been Lyle. The freshman has stepped into the starting lineup in place of senior forward Eugene Atkinson and responded. Lyle is averaging 32.6 minutes per game (second only to Howard) as well as averaging 9.2 ppg.

Dillard explained the use of Lyle as something of a necessity.

"In order for us to be an effective team, we need some size up front," Dillard said. "Lyle came in and wanted to earn a spot and he is performing so we had to give him some minutes. The thing I love about him is his consistency."

Consistency is something that has been missing from the Dukes' offense at times, although Dillard feels that as junior point guard Jabarri Outtz, who sat out last season as a transfer, and Howard, who sat out last season with an injury, become better acclimated to playing a full season, the JMU offense will flow.

"It takes a little while to get that chemistry," Dillard said. "As hard as we push each other in practice, there's no substitute for game competition."

As the Dukes get deeper into the season, Lyle has noticed a difference as well.

"Our offense has come together as the season has progressed," Lyle said. Outtz has provided an offensive boost for the Dukes, averaging 14.5 ppg while shooting 38 percent from the floor. As Outtz has secured the starting spot away from senior Ned Felton, Felton has seen his minutes decrease sharply from last season. The three-year starter is averaging 16.2 minutes a game, but has still dished off for 34 assists.

While Atkinson may not always be in the starting lineup, he is still leading the Dukes in rebounding with junior center Rob Strickland a close second.

"I'm really pleased with the fact that Rob and Eugene have stepped up at times," Dillard said. "Eugene has had some good games since the break."

It's been a revamped JMU defense that has helped the Dukes to their nine wins, and Dillard knows the same kind of effort on the defensive end will probably be necessary.

"I'm really pleased with our defense," Dillard said. "We've been able to play fine team defense, which has improved our offense. We just need to sustain if for a longer period of time."

The Dukes will get that opportunity on Saturday.
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Women's team drops to 6-11

Road-weary Dukes hope they can turn things around in Convo

JENE HOLSON
staff writer

The JMU women's basketball team hopes that a return home this weekend will turn their season around.

The Dukes have seen their record drop to 6-11 overall, and 0-4 in the CAA following four consecutive losses. The four-game skid is the second of the season for the Dukes, which previously had not occurred since the 1991-92 season.

The Dukes now find themselves under .500 at this point in the season for the first time since 1982.

"We're trying to stay positive and get things back on track," sophomore guard Mandy White said. "We're still a good team, we just haven't shown it yet."

Sunday, the Dukes lost 70-61 in Greenville, N.C. to East Carolina University. JMU opened up strong, jumping out to a lead in the first half.

The Dukes led 31-20 with 2:59 remaining in the first half. ECU then went on a 12-5 run to close the half, narrowing the lead to four. The Pirates went ahead to stay early in the second period, as five players reached double figures in scoring.

The Dukes turned the ball over a season-high 26 times in the game, leading to 20 ECU points. Senior Shirlence Archer and freshman guard Jody Williams shared the JMU scoring lead, each scoring 13.

Previously, on Jan. 8 the Dukes fell for the first time ever to the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, 67-55. Junior point guard Chandra Watkins had a huge game for the Seahawks, scoring a career-high 33.

The Dukes had the early lead, 18-16, but UNCW grabbed the lead for good midway through the first half. A 13-3 run by the Dukes early in the second half cut the Seahawk lead to four with 13:56 remaining. JMU sliced the lead to three twice, but could never get any closer.

Sophomore guard Becky Wollenberg led the Dukes with 11 points.

The toughest loss to take came Jan. 5 against American University. The Eagles sent the Dukes packing from the CAA Tournament last year on a controversial last-second shot by Kari Gaskins, and would be victimized by Gaskins at the end once again.

Following a 14-7 scoring run to open the second half, the Dukes held their biggest lead of the night, 53-32. JMU then went on a scoring drought, allowing the Eagles to run off 22 straight points to take the lead with 5:24 remaining.

After regaining the lead, the Dukes fell behind again before a Kish Jordan lay up tied the game at 59. As the Dukes set up for the go-ahead shot, Gaskins stole the ball and took it the length of the floor to hit a lay-up with three seconds remaining.

The Dukes have history on their side as they return home this Friday, however, leading the all-time series with George Mason University 28-11. JMU has beaten the Patriots (5-7, 2-1 CAA) 10 straight times.

"It will be rejuvenating to be back at home," Archer said. "We're going to stay with a lot of what we've been doing, but we're trying to polish up on a few things."

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VAHV will lead a memorial service for the Virginia victims of gun violence on Jan. 18 at 11 am in Capitol Square, Richmond. Call the info line at 432-1451. (transportation available)
JMU gymnastics flips into new year

DAVID BUCK
contributing writer

The JMU women's gymnastics team will open its season this Friday night in Sinclair Gymnasium in Godwin Hall at 7:30 p.m.

North Carolina State University, who finished the season ranked 10th in the nation, comes to town along with Towson University to provide the Dukes with what JMU head coach Roger Burke says will "be good competition." Towson is regarded as one of the region's best teams.

The Dukes are expecting to field a competitive team this season as well. JMU lost only two gymnasts to graduation from last season, giving them an experienced squad with six seniors leading with a sense of immediacy.

"This is our season," JMU senior co-captain Kate McClintock said.

Senior Jill Hornung echoed McClintock's sentiments. "We have a positive outlook this year," she said. "We were hurt last year by a lot of injuries."

The Dukes suffered so many injuries in 1998 that Burke called last season's campaign "the march of the hobbling wounded."

"We lost someone almost every meet to some bizarre, season-ending injury," Burke said.

Injuries have reared their ugly head this season, as McClintock is suffering from an injured ankle, but is still expected to compete Friday.

"We're as ready as we ever have been for a first meet," Burke said. "Our prospects for the season are very promising. We're excited for a big crowd on Friday to come and support the girl's team. Hopefully we'll get off to a good start to a promising season."

While N.C. State and Towson will offer a challenge for the Dukes in their first meet, Hornung is optimistic heading into Friday's opener.

"N.C. State and Towson are very decent teams, but we should look very good," Hornung said. "We've been working very hard for this season." McClintock said, "We hope to take their momentum and use it to our advantage. People who come and watch should see some good gymnastics."
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Gearing up for the stretch run

Men and women travel to Florida for winter training; men improve to 6-1

MAGDA SALAZAR
contributing writer

The JMU swimming and diving teams returned from a winter break training trip in Florida with another mark in the win column, as the men defeated Florida-Atlantic University 143-102 and Bowling Green State University 201-43 in a dual meet Jan. 5th. The team now has a record of 6-1.

The women were defeated in their meet against The U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD Jan. 9 after splitting their meet with FAU and BGSU in Florida. They defeated BGSU with a score of 174-71 and a lost to FAU with a final score of 126-119.

"The early part of our training trip, we went down there to train for six or seven days," men's head coach Brooks Teal said. "The guys really got excited and fired up and trained really well, and we won pretty handily."

While in Florida, the team took a break from the usual scenery and spent a couple of days in Fort Pierce, Fla., where

Senior Adam Prem shows off his stroke at practice Tuesday. Prem won first place in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 46.89. Prem and the Dukes return to action this weekend against Virginia Tech.

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Dukes benefit from winter training trip

The training proved to be beneficial to the athletes, as seven members of the men’s team earned first place finishes in their respective contests. Senior Adam Prem took a first place finish in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 46.89 and senior Kyle Kunstel came in with a time of 21.91 in the 50 freestyle for another first place finish.

Senior Cliff Parker took the win in the 200 individual medley with a time of 1:57.84, while junior Will Von Ohlen finished first in the 200-yard breaststroke and sophomore Bret Stone won the 100-yard butterfly in 53.14. Freshmen standouts John McLaren and Tommy Quimby finished first in their respective meets. McLaren finished ahead in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:01.16 and Quimby clocked in first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:51.52.

Senior captain Adam Prem said, “We trained hard, we’re at the peak of our training. Going against FAU and BGSU, it’s a big confidence booster to get a significant win.”

In more recent competition, the women went up against Navy, coming up short of the win with a final score of 169-131. Sophomore Samantha Smith and freshman Shannon Smiley each scored two first-place finishes for the Dukes. Smith won the 100-meter breaststroke in 1:13.84 and the 200-meter breaststroke in 2:41.60. Smiley took honors in the 800-meter freestyle in 9:19.47 and won the 400-meter freestyle in 4:33.65.

Senior Cliff Parker said, “It is going to be a tough meet but we are looking forward to swimming against them. We’re really focused and we have our goals set.”

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**MEN'S GYMNASTICS**

Freshman Nick Blanton finished 25th in the individual all-around competition at the 1999 West Point Gymnastics Open January 8. Blanton scored 49.700 points. He finished 17th in the floor exercise (8.550 points), 16th in the vault (8.800) and 17th in the high bar (8.300).

JMU junior Tim Bulleri also had a good showing. Bulleri placed 13th in the floor exercise with a score of 8.750 and 25th in the parallel bars (8.300). He was 50th in the all-around standings with a total of 39.300.

Freshman Luke Edstrom was 40th in the all-around competition.

Ron Roseder of Penn State University was the all-around champion with 55.650 points. Two other Nittany Lions, Adam Benas and Tobias Ekaman, rounded out the top three.

As a team, the Dukes finished sixth out of the nine competing teams. JMU tallied 192.9500 points. Penn State won the team competition with 222.300 points.

Ron Roeder of Penn State University was the all-around champion with 55.650 points. Two other Nittany Lions, Adam Benas and Tobias Ekaman, rounded out the top three.

**MEN'S SOCCER**

JMU men's soccer player Kevin Knight will play in the Umbro Select College All-Star Classic Feb. 5-6 in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Matt Chulis of the University of Virginia is the only other player from a Virginia school to be invited to the 1999 Umbro Game.

Knight, a defender and midfielder, scored two goals and assisted on five others during the 1998 season, his last as a Duke.

He had 13 goals and 23 assists in his four-year career at JMU. Knight was a team co-captain in both 1997 and 1998.

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**When Greatness goes**

At a loss of words, sometimes it's better to sing.

As I sit here being bombarded with all-Michael Jordan stories from everywhere, I have to admit to feelings of hurt and confusion. I'm hurt and confused and I don't know where to turn. My sports universe as I know it is quickly crumbling around me.

First the ABL, then John Thompson Jr. and now Jordan. I guess I now know how Don MacLean must have felt when he penned "American Pie" for his fallen idols, Buddy Holly and Ritchie Valens. Besides, what is more American than Jordan elevating for two points? So, with my sincerest apologies to Don MacLean:

Not that long ago, I can still remember how Air Jordan used to make me smile.

And I knew when he had the chance, he would shake defenders with just a glance and basketball fans would be happy for a while. But January made me shiver, with every e-mail that got delivered.

Bad news on ESPN, I felt like I'd lost a friend.

I know for sure I didn't cry but I wanted just to see him fly.

Something touched me deep inside the day MJ retired.

**Gimmie a minute**

— Seth Burton

Chorus

So bye-bye number 23, I still drive the lane thinking you are me.

Them good ole boys are drinking Gatorade and wearing Nike Air Jordans all day.

Did you re-write the book of NBA history? Did you burn Portland with another three in the Finals six years ago?

Do you believe in the pick 'n' roll? Can basketball save your mortal soul? MJ, are you sure you have to go?

Well I know that it's for the best, cause you went out unlike all the rest. You beat the Jazz to win, it was unbelievable again.

You were athletic and jumpin' when you went up to dunk with your tongue hangin' out and some poor soul wanting to duck. Now we're all out of luck the day MJ retired.

So bye-bye number twenty three, I still drive the lane thinking you are me.

Them good ole boys are drinking Gatorade and wearing Nike Air Jordans all day.

I went down to that special court, where I'd bounced the ball years before, but there was no one out who wanted to play.

And in Chicago, Jerry Krause screamed, Rodman cried and Pippen dreamed. But not a word was spoken, our hearts had all been broken.

No matter who you admire most, Larry Bird or Casper the Ghost, it's time to raise up for a fitting toast now that MJ has retired.

Seth Burton sometimes tries to rhyme but he just can't like this.
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*Today's Birthday (Jan. 14)*

Your secrets could be revealed this year, but that's OK. They'll be revealed to you first, so you'll have the upper hand always right. There's plenty of money in February, but also careful. It's not really a fixed income yet. Hide as much as you can away for your future security, especially in March. In April you'll have to pay obligations and, of course, taxes. That could also work out all right. You might even get some back. August looks good for financial deals, and October's a good time to go for that promotion you've been thinking about. Tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in December.

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 9 — You're lucky, so you might as well push for what you want next. You could run into a setback, but don't let that stop you. Once you get around that temporary condition, you'll be off and running again. Your day will start out well, and your overall outcome looks like it's going to be successful, so take any hassles in stride.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**

Today is a 4 — Today you could be tempted to take a financial risk, which is unusual for you. A case of buyer's remorse could crop up, but if you've done your homework, you should be able to make a good assessment. Don't panic because you're buying something more expensive than usual. If it's going to last longer, it really is a good investment.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)**

Today is a 7 — Your best teachers today are people you know well, including your significant other and closest friend. You don't want anyone to know how much you don't know, but today, let people in on that deep, dark secret.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)**

Today is a 5 — The worst is over and now all you have to do is clean up the mess. You don't have to do it all by yourself, either. Get a co-worker to help you. Guilt is a pretty effective means for doing that, and you'll be an expert at gaining sympathy. If that doesn't seem to work, just come right out and ask.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**

Today is an 8 — The work you've done lately is bringing you attention. Make sure you look sharp. People with money and power are giving you the once-over, and you may not realize when they're watching. It's always best to assume somebody's looking.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

Today is a 6 — What's going on at your place? It could be a lot of fun, but it looks like there's also a mess involved, and that's a little irritating. You might be getting antsy to straighten things up, and that's good.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)**

Today is a 3 — You can still do a little more homework before you launch your next project. But you'll better hurry. By tomorrow, you should have whatever it is well under way. You're being drawn in that direction by unseen forces, so you don't have to worry about what it's going to be.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)**

Today is a 6 — Looks like a raise is possible, or a better job offer. You don't have to sit and wait for it, either. You can put on a little pressure, if you know where to push. You probably do, too. If you're like most Scorpios, you've been thinking about this for quite some time.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

Today is an 8 — You should be able to get farther today than you've ever gone before. You're doing well on your own, but you need a little extra boost to go over the top. You'll get that from someone near and dear to you, perhaps a close family member.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

Today is a 5 — Somebody's looking over your shoulder, watching your every move. Make sure you're looking good, minding your manners and saying only nice things. If you're a true Capricorn, you balk at belling to people who think they're important. This time, however, it'd be wise to watch your Ps and Qs.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

Today is a 7 — You and your team are on a red hot today. You will have some minor difficulties concerning finances, but you'll bounce right over them. As you and your friends share ideas, you're coming up with better ones all the time. Keep the banter flowing.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**

Today is a 9 — You're lucky today, but that doesn't mean everything is going to go easily. In fact, you could take a direct hit. A person you respect and admire is rather upset right now, and might take it out on you without even meaning to. If that happens, don't take it seriously.

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**SOAP OPERA UPDATES**

**All My Children**

Tad spies Dixie's medication, but she claims it's just aspirin. Dixie tells Paige that Steven should have been brought to get her rid of her. Tad thinks Dixie has something to do with his disappearing dates. Dixie almost tells Tad the whole truth, but Braden prevents that.

**Another World**

Donna sees Marley's dolls and tells Joe that Vicky is in the love mansion. Donna blames herself for the way Marley turned out. Jake and Joe get to the love mansion, but Marley is gone. She knows the cops are after her and gets Vicky out on the ledge of a building. Jake manages to talk her off the ledge and when he sees that scene. He gets in Rick's face and Kimberly objects.

**Days of Our Lives**

Roman is suspicious about Nicole's timing tumble down the stairs and calls her but Eric intercepts the call. Things aren't too cool for Sami when Marlena, Eric and Austin take the stand. The DA makes Sami look like a pathetic individual and Marlena, Eric and Austin are simply forced to agree. Lucas is guilt-ridden watching the trial on television and thinks that maybe he should confess to the murder.

**General Hospital**

Carly wants to redo the penthouse and should to confess to the murder. Cassie off that Church scaffolding. Barbara is arrested and Kevin grabs her to chill and stay out of it. Nina, spending time with Tony. Ryan tells Gaye she planned this for him. Annie says she planned this for him. Gregory shows up and goes postal. She complies and takes her to Springfield PD. Drew tells Selena her role in the murder and Selena vows to protect her daughter.

**Guiding Light**

Drew tells Danny that it was Michelle who murdered his brother. Danny gets in Michelle's face and she confesses that the killed Rick in self-defense because he was going to rape her. Danny tells her she will pay. Selena helps Drew after hearing she spilled the beans on Michelle to Danny. Selena urges her to call the Springfield PD. Drew tells Selena her role in the murder and Selena vows to protect her daughter.

**One Life to Live**

Jessica tells Will that she wants to give their child up for adoption. Will says he'll fight her in court. Rosanne wants Will's baby or no baby. Bo's Guesser's Disease test comes back negative as does Sam's, but he is catching on that something is up with Nora and Sam. Barbara is arrested and Kevin grabs Cassie off that Church scaffolding before she jumps.

**Port Charles**

Joe and Courtney figure that no one will ever find them. Joe works on an escape plan. In a Collin's-like move, he plans to build a raft so they can escape, but his choice of materials just don't float. Victor remains in Greece with Mary to protect her from an archival of his. The two end up locked in the back of a truck. Cooper wants Lucy in exchange for Live, and Scott and Garcia won't send her in. In a hair-brained Lucy scheme, she goes in herself.

**Sunset Beach**

Cole and Catlin cruise around a hot tub and he tells her how he wants another baby. Gregory calls Anni again demanding another million dollars. He says he'll let her out of the money deal if she will entertain a friend of his. Of course Annie agrees. Gregory sends her to the Monte Carlo Suite at the Inn and instructs her to wear only whipped cream. She complies and Gregory shows up and goes postal. Annie says she planned this for him.

**The Young & the Restless**

Tricia is aggravated that Megan is spending time with Tony. Ryan tells her to chill and stay out of it. Nina, looking fabulous, puts on a show for Ryan. Gricie Slick meets Al at Alice's. Al offers Grace a beer and she asks for coffee instead. Grace is digging for information and on her way out, she sees a photo of Victor Newman taped up on the wall.
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- “Creative Dating” - Feb. 11
- Safe Break Party - Feb. 16
- Eating Disorders Awareness Week - Feb. 22-26
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- “Crimes Against Nature” by Chris Kilmartin - Apr. 6
- STD Awareness Month - April
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Application forms can be picked up at the Bluestone office in Anthony-Seeger Hall, Room 217. Applications are due Monday, January 25 and must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. Questions? Call Leah or Wendy at x6541.

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