

THE BREEZE

James Madison University

Today:
Showers
High: 60°
Low: 44°

Vol. 81, Issue 48

Senate creates two new positions

By TONI DUNCAN
senior writer

The Student Government Association announced the creation of two new executive positions and passed three of four bills Tuesday.

Student Body President Levar Stoney said the Executive Council voted last

Thursday to add a director of government relations and a director of cultural affairs to its current seven-member executive staff.

Junior Tom Culligan, SGA chief of staff and student body president-elect, said the director of government relations will work with Virginia 21, JMU's lobbying organization in Richmond to bring recognition and funding to JMU. The director also will work with voter registration, the Legislative Action Committee and attend Harrisonburg City Council meetings to increase representation of the JMU student body.

The director of cultural affairs will work with diversity, social and cultural affairs to help the administration and students with issues that affect the campus, according to the SGA Web site sga.jmu.edu. The director also will be a liaison between the student body, administration and the SGA.

Applicants to the two new positions must be in good academic standing and may not be current senators in SGA.

Applications are due April 12 by 5 p.m. to Culligan in the SGA office in Taylor Hall, room 203. For more information on the positions and its requirements, visit the SGA's Web site.

The Senate unanimously passed Finance Bill 20 — the Matthew Lee Montgomery Danville Memorial Scholarship. The bill requested \$1,500 from the SGA reserve account to guarantee the continuation of the scholarship.

The Senate also passed Finance Bill 21, which gives \$492.58 to the Christian Student Union.

Senior Amanda Hayes, president of the Christian Student Union, said the money is necessary for her organization because it needs an "upgrade in sound equipment," she said. The money will be used to fix a speaker, buy a new microphone and a wireless lapel microphone.

The Senate also passed Finance Bill 23, which gives \$2,000 to the American Choral Director Association.

However, Finance Bill 22 for the Contemporary Gospel Singers did not pass. The group requested \$723.71, but questions remained as to where the money would be going so the bill was voted down.

Junior Matt Gray, SGA finance committee head, said he received an e-mail from the Contemporary Gospel Singers telling him they knew the numbers for the funds they requested from SGA were incorrect, and that they wanted to add and subtract certain items from their list of requests.

Since the revising of a bill through e-mail does not follow with the SGA's standard process, the finance committee removed the Contemporary Gospel Singers' items from the bill — including funds for a deejay — because the organization's figures were inaccurate.

The finance committee

SGA
student government association



UREC employees battle in Olympics

Photos by AMY PATERSON/
photo editor

Above, the climbing wall was part of Saturday's relay to end the UREC Olympics. Right, senior Jake Kelske competes in a balloon race.



Teams climb, race, swim for charity

By GEARY COX
news editor

More than 150 student employees from the University Recreation Center gathered together on Saturday to close the first annual UREC Olympics.

The games began last Monday with a speech from Eric Nickel, Director of University Recreation. The eight teams of UREC employees then completed kickball, volleyball, family

feud and volleyball portions of the games.

A penny war also was held, in which participants were given a week to collect the most pennies from donations accepted around campus. Junior Erin Dolan, UREC graduate assistant for marketing and sponsorships, said over \$250 was raised by the penny war and that all proceeds from the collection went to Relay for Life.

see UREC, page 5

Filmmaker Spike Lee gives advice to students

By DAVID ALLEN AND
GEARY COX
contributing writer and
news editor

Acclaimed filmmaker Spike Lee told an audience gathered in Wilson Hall Auditorium Monday, "Utilize your four years here to determine what it is that you love — not where you'll make the most money."

About 400 people attended Lee's speech, according to freshman Jeremy Paredes, University Program Board director of media and public relations.

Creator of such social commentary films as "Do the Right Thing" and "25th Hour," Lee began by

urging the audience to vote in November. He expressed concern about America being "hood-winked, bamboozled" by the George W. Bush administration into supporting the war in Iraq.

Lee said the American political atmosphere currently is shrouded with passing the blame. He added that since Sept. 11, 2001, Bush has used the boogeyman to scare Americans and achieve an ulterior agenda.

Many forms of the media are being used as "narcotics to numb your brain," Lee said. "Young people have to turn it around."

Freshman Ashley Lakner said, "So much of our society revolves

around trivial matters. A lot of Lee's films have worked to tackle real issues and I definitely appreciate that about him."

Lee discussed his film career, which began in the summer of 1977.

Lee said that his childhood dream involved playing second base for the New York Mets but "genetics didn't have that in mind for me."

That same summer, while Lee was on break from Morehouse College in Alabama, a serial killer moved about New York City. Spike used a Super 8mm camera to record random shots of pan-

see LEE, page 4

Hillel visits Holocaust Museum

Trip part of remembrance week

By ASHLEY MCCLELLAND
news editor

Hillel, JMU's Jewish student organization, traveled to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., April 3 to visit the permanent exhibit about what the Nazi Party had done to the Jewish people.

"I wanted to take the trip to the museum so as to remind me of how important it is for me to celebrate my faith," freshman Erica Bennetch said. "Even though it is my second time going [to the museum], it was just as hard as the first time. I saw things that I hadn't seen before."

According to sophomore Mark Scialdone, Hillel membership chair, many of the students who went to the museum had already been, but had new experiences in their most recent visit. Now that the students were older, they could better appreciate the museum and understand exactly what happened to the people Adolf Hitler persecuted.

“Even though it is my second time going [to the museum], it was just as hard as the first time. I saw things that I hadn't seen before.”

— Erica Bennetch
freshman

"The trip to Washington, D.C., to see the Holocaust Memorial Museum is part of the Holocaust Remembrance Week events sponsored by Hillel," said senior Evan Schwartz, member at-large. "I decided to plan this trip because I think that everyone on earth should go to this museum, and I wanted to provide an easy, affordable way for JMU students to do so."

The trip was \$5 and covered the cost of a charter bus. Admission to the museum is free.

This is the first year Hillel has held a Holocaust Memorial Museum trip. "I also tried to run the event last year, but I had to cancel due to lack of attendance," Schwartz said. "This year's publicity efforts were obviously more successful. At one point, we had over 50 people signed up for this year's trip, but many had to cancel and we ended up with 35 people. I hope that we can run the event next year and bring even more people."

The students who went to the museum said they left with strong emotional feelings about what they had seen. "The most memorable, traumatic and shocking exhibit was looking at the models of the gas chambers and how they lured the detainees into the chambers," Bennetch said. "[Prisoners] were drawn into the chambers because the Nazis put up fake shower heads and posters encouraging cleanliness."

Schwartz said, "There is one permanent exhibit in the Holocaust [Memorial] Museum and one children's exhibit. All of the people that went on the trip went through the permanent exhibition, which consists of three floors describing each section of the Holocaust, including the Nazi [Party's] rise to power, concentration camp atrocities and the aftermath [of the war]."

Hillel also puts on other activities throughout the year. "Our activities range from small events such as bowling and Tasty Tuesdays — where every Tuesday we go to a different local restaurant — to larger events such as Holocaust Remembrance Week, which will begin April 19," Scialdone said.

Hillel students closed their trip to Washington, D.C., with a walk around the Mall, during which students reflected on their visit to the museum, sophomore Daniel Teweles said.



NATHAN CHIANTELLA/photos editor

Filmmaker Spike Lee spoke at JMU Monday night.

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DUKE DAYS Events Calendar

Thursday, April 8
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will be on the commons collecting donations for Camping for Kids for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Friday, April 9
The department of sociology and anthropology is sponsoring a reception honoring faculty who have published books recently, including Clarence Geier, Nikitah Imani, Laura Lewis and Andrea Wiley in Sheldon Hall, room 114, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. For more information contact the department office at x8-6171.

Women of Color and Brothers of a New Direction are hosting their first annual men's and women's conference, "Learning, Empowering and Discovering Everyone's Role in Society," from April 9 to April 11. Sign-ups for registration packets are located in the CMISS office in Warren Hall, room 245. For more information contact Tiffany Jackson at jacksotd.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8 - SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2004

"International Culture Show 2004: Bringing Cultures Together" sponsored by Felix Wang and the International Student Association will be in the Wilson Hall Auditorium at 8 p.m. featuring Chinese yo-yo and Tahitian and African dancing.

Saturday, April 10
Women of Color and Brothers of a New Direction are hosting their first annual men's and women's conference, "Learning, Empowering and Discovering Everyone's Role in Society," from April 9 to April 11. Sign ups for registration packets are located in the CMISS office in Warren Hall, room 245. For more information contact Tiffany Jackson at jacksotd.

Sunday, April 11
Women of Color and Brothers of a New Direction are hosting their first annual men's and women's conference, "Learning, Empowering and Discovering Everyone's Role in Society," from April 9 to April 11 to sign up. Sign ups for registration packets are located in the CMISS office in Warren Hall, room 245. For more information contact Tiffany Jackson at jacksotd.

Submitting events to the DUKE DAYS Events Calendar: Contact Lauren at mckaylr two days prior to the issue date you would like your event to be published. Please try to limit the event description to no more than 50 words.

The Breeze will be back April 15.

HAPPY EASTER!

FUN FACT of the Day
The **GREAT** pyramids of **Egypt** now stand a full **THREE** miles south of the spot where they were **originally** built.

POLICE LOG

By LAUREN MCKAY
police log reporter

A JMU student reported that an unknown person(s) drove away a truck owned by JMU and stole an unknown amount of money from Hillside Hall April 2 between 1:40 and 1:55 p.m.

In other matters, campus police report the following:

Concealed Weapon
Non-student Nelso W. Reed, 22, of Richmond was arrested and charged with carrying a concealed weapon in R1 Lot April 3 at 1:26 a.m.

Possession of Marijuana
Zachary K. Wood, 18, of Hillsville was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana in Chandler Hall April 4 at 8:22 p.m.

Harassment
A JMU student reported that an unknown person sent him or her harassing messages over a computer in McGraw-Long Hall April 4 at 8 p.m.

Property Damage
A non-student reported that an unknown person(s) damaged the rear car door of a car in R3 Lot between April 2 at 8 p.m. and April 4 at 11:30 a.m.

A non-student reported that an unknown person(s) scratched the driver's side door and cut the soft-top of a car in C4 Lot April 4 between midnight and 9 a.m.

A JMU student reported that an unknown person(s) made scratches on a car in R3 Lot between April 3 at 6:30 p.m. and April 4 at 7 p.m.

Petty Larceny
A JMU student reported the larceny of a bike from an ISAT bike rack between April 2 at 12:15 p.m. and April 5 at 7:45 a.m.

Number of drunk in public charges since Aug. 25: 71

Number of parking tickets issued between Aug. 25 and April 5: 25,560

WEATHER

Today
Showers
High 60 Low 44

Friday	Sunny	Sunday	Showers
61/35	51/44		
Saturday	Partly Cloudy	Monday	Rain
52/40	59/48		

MARKET WATCH

As of close on Wednesday, April 7, 2004

DOW JONES	AMEX
+0.46	+8.77
close: 2984.54	close: 1256.75
NASDAQ	S&P 500
-6.41	-0.79
close: 1994.22	close: 1126.21

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Breeze is published Monday and Tuesday mornings and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Drew Wilson, editor.

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

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CLASSIFIEDS

- How to place a classified: Come to The Breeze office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- Cost: \$3.00 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.

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NEWS

Fighting terror in Pakistan

Anti-terror agents get little help from tribes on Pakistan's frontier, a hot bed for al-Qaeda activity.

See story below

"Our all-time goal is to raise enough money to fund another house ..."

AMANDA LAZ
senior

See story below

AROUND CAMPUS

TV producer to speak at graduation May 8

The television producer who developed the CBS series "Joan of Arcadia" will deliver the commencement address at JMU Saturday, May 8.

Barbara Hall ('82) also has produced such shows as "Judging Amy," "Northern Exposure" and written an episode of "ER."

The graduation ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. in Bridgeforth Stadium.

Professors win award for Best of Festival

Two JMU professors won the Broadcast Education Association Best of Festival Award for an interactive tool they produced in order to teach students about exposure control challenges and solutions in video production.

Steven D. Anderson and M. Joseph Hinshaw won the Best of Festival: The Charles and Lucille King Foundation Award in the Faculty Interactive Multimedia Competition.

The award ceremony and screening will take place April 17 in Las Vegas.

NAACP hosting annual image awards ceremony

The JMU chapter of the NAACP will be hosting its annual image awards ceremony at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Harrisonburg.

The organization will be recognizing "unsung heroes" today at 7 p.m.

JMU's NAACP will be celebrating individuals who have helped to make a positive impact on the JMU and Harrisonburg communities.

Shuttles will be available from Godwin Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for those who require transportation.

Contact Erika Peters at [peterser](mailto:peterser@jmu.edu) for more information about the event.

IN THE VALLEY

Fifth annual women's conference scheduled

HARRISONBURG — The Association of Fundraising Professionals, Shenandoah Chapter will hold a luncheon workshop April 15.

The workshop is for non-profit organization CEO's, board members and development professionals.

Sherrill Glazer, Major Gifts Officer for Rockingham Memorial Hospital, will discuss proper conduct during the first donor-recipient meeting.

The luncheon will be held at Evers Restaurant, and registration and lunch will start at 11:45 a.m.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ricin investigation in D.C. still wide open

WASHINGTON, D.C. (The Washington Post) — Federal investigators have examined over 20,000 pieces of mail hoping to find the source of the ricin discovered Feb. 2 on Capitol Hill but have nothing to lead them to a suspect.

Authorities are uncertain how traces of ricin wound up in a letter-opening machine in an office of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

The absence of a tainted letter has made it difficult to pin down whether the ricin had been there for hours, weeks or even months before a Frist intern discovered it, officials said.

The amount was so small that laboratories have been unable to analyze its composition and potency, slowing efforts to determine whether the case can be linked to an investigation into two letters containing ricin that surfaced elsewhere in the fall.

'Do You Give a Buck?' to fund Habitat house

BY KAREN MILLS
contributing writer

The JMU Habitat for Humanity organization will host "Do You Give a Buck" on the commons April 14 and 15 in hopes to get every student to donate \$1.

All donations to Habitat will go toward funding a home that was built last fall for a local family.

"We need to raise \$13,000 more in order to pay [Central Valley Habitat for Humanity] back in full," said senior Sarah Murray, Habitat for Humanity vice president.

Last year Habitat raised about \$148 for

its "Do You Give a Buck?" fund raiser.

"Our all-time goal for this fund raiser is to raise enough money to fund another house, to help a local family get on their feet and out of poverty housing," said senior Amanda Laz, Habitat for Humanity president.

"JMU Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit campus organization that has a strong dedication to motivating and educating the JMU student body about poverty housing issues in Harrisonburg," Laz said.

"[We] strive to bring support to anybody with an immediate housing need. Our goal of eliminating poverty

housing worldwide begins with one local family," she added.

According to sophomore Aubrey Holmes, Habitat for Humanity treasurer, many of the families who live in Habitat homes have struggled through rough times. The Habitat homes are cheaper than others because many of the necessary tools are donated from local businesses.

"The families still have to pay and donate their services to working on a Habitat house for a certain number of hours," Holmes said. "The families do not have to pay interest over time. After the home is completed, the families become homeowners."

Habitat for Humanity has held several other fund-raising events throughout the year. Rent-a-Worker is one of the fund raisers in which professors "rent" Habitat members to do yardwork for them.

Habitat also has collected cans to recycle and held letter drives, during which Habitat members send out letters asking for donations from close friends and relatives. Habitat also has sponsored movies at Grafton-Stovall Theatre with the University Program Board.

"Do You Give a Buck?" will be held on the commons April 14 and 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information e-mail Sarah Murray at [murrayse](mailto:murrayse@jmu.edu).



Photo courtesy of The Washington Post

The Peeps Fun Bus travels throughout the country every year. Peeps come in a variety of shapes to celebrate other holidays, though the greatest variety of the treats celebrate Easter. Just Born, Inc., the company that makes Peeps, also makes the popular chicks for Independence Day, Halloween and Christmas.

Popular Peeps feed nation's sugar high

Marshmallow chicks are best-loved harbinger of Easter

BY VINCENT P. BZDEK
The Washington Post

To some, they are the essence of Easter, born in a place called Bethlehem no less, and celebrated in art, craft, song and ode. To others, they are the Rodney Dangerfields of food, serving as suitable grist for Internet parodies, macabre recipes and mad scientists' experiments.

They are Peeps, the chick-and-bunny-shaped marshmallow treats that have become, like it or not, one of America's best-loved harbingers of the Easter season. (True believers like to call it Peep Season, which starts about Feb. 25, when the chicks first appear in stores.) Fifty years after the first ones were squeezed out of pastry tubes in a 26-hour-long process, 1.2 billion of them are consumed worldwide annually.

They are an "American icon," says Washington artist David Ottogalli, whose principal medium is Peeps and other vibrantly colored food products. "When blazing-yellow Peeps

appear on your grocer's shelves, you know it's springtime."

For more than a decade, Peeps have been the country's favorite non-chocolate Easter treat, according to Milena DeLuca, a spokeswoman for Just Born, Inc., the company that makes them.

“When blazing-yellow Peeps appear on your grocer's shelves, you know it's springtime.”

— David Ottogalli
Washington artist

In the past three years, Peeps consumption has surged by more than 100 million a year. Americans eat an average of 2.3 Peeps a piece each spring.

Just Born, Inc., which marked its 50th anniversary of making

Peeps last year, produces 4.1 million a day at its plant in Bethlehem, Pa. The company has expanded to other holidays, creating Peeps-like marshmallow hearts for Valentine's Day, pumpkins and ghosts for Halloween and Christmas trees and snowmen for Christmas.

What is it about Peeps? Why do they arouse such passion, both negative and positive?

Ottogalli believes their popularity stems from their protean simplicity. They are so basic, so blank, so formless — even their wings were removed in 1991 as the manufacturing process was streamlined — that people adapt them to all sort of uses, he said.

"Peeps are popular because of their form, color, texture and tastiness," Ottogalli said. "Not to mention their versatility; you can eat them, smooch them, melt them, freeze them ... even spray-paint them."

Certainly, Peeps are eaten in a

see PEEPS, page 4

Pakistani tribes offer little help to anti-terror agents

BY PAMELA CONSTABLE
The Washington Post

The village market near Bannu in northwestern Pakistan looked sleepy, but turbaned tribesmen lounged in the shadows of its tea shops, each with an assault rifle slung over his shoulder or cradled familiarly in his lap.

Just past the market, a drooping chain with a lone sentry marked the boundary between Pakistan proper and the semi-autonomous tribal area bordering Afghanistan, where an anti-terrorist offensive by the army in March left more than 100 people dead and the region in turmoil.

"The government says al-Qaeda is over there, but that is only because of American pressure," said Zakim Khan, an elder of the Kabarkhel clan, surrounded by armed men as he spoke.

The Pakistani offensive

and its aftermath have brought into sharp relief the perils of intervening in Pakistan's rebellious tribal area and opened a volatile dispute over whether the system of semi-autonomous, federally administered tribal agencies — a rugged, 10,000-square-mile area described by one Pakistani newspaper as a "museum flush with Stinger missiles" and smugglers — should even continue to exist.

Pakistani officials said the military raids in the South Waziristan tribal area, which involved several thousand troops and helicopter attacks on village compounds, dismantled a nest of foreign Islamic terrorists and their local supporters. Officials said 163 people were arrested, at least 70 of them foreigners.

But the army withdrew from the area last week, after eight captured soldiers and two local officials were found executed.

A council of regional tribesmen negotiated the release of 12 hostages in exchange for the military pull-out. Meanwhile, authorities backed off from initial claims to have wounded or captured several important foreign terrorists, possibly including top aides to al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

"The militants suffered casualties, but in the end they dictated the conditions and won the day," said Afrasiab Khattak, a human rights activist in Peshawar, a major city in Pakistan. "The situation is very dangerous now because if they can stop the army in one place, they can launch attacks elsewhere."

In the wake of retreating troops, tribal militants have reportedly returned to several villages demolished by the armed forces and delivered leaflets warning people not to collaborate with any of the government agents.

Getting into the game



KYRA PAPAPIL/senior photographer

Junior Even Bolick enjoys a game of Virtual Reality Pac-Man. The game was sponsored by the University Program Board.

LEE: Filmmaker discusses race, career

LEE, from page 1

-icked citizens and then compiled them into a film.

He then decided to declare his major and become a filmmaker. Lee edited the film again and rereleased "Summer of Sam" (1999) which later starred John Leguizamo.

After graduating from Morehouse, Lee attended New York University's graduate film program. Lee said he used NYU as an equipment rental house with a cast and crew of students to help each other make films.

Lee said that he chose to attend NYU because he failed to achieve the "astronomical" Graduate Records Examination (GRE) scores required by the University of Southern California and the University of California-Los Angeles.

Lee won the Student Academy Award in 1980 for his feature film, "Joe's Bed Story Barbershop: We Cut Heads." Lee said his success seemed

fated and did not require effort.

"I was young and dumb," Lee said of his apathetic search for employment. He waited for a feature film to drop into his lap, but realized it would not come without effort.

In 1986 at the Cannes Film Festival, Lee released his first major debut "She's Got to Have It," at a production cost of \$175,000. The film grossed \$8.5 million at the box office.

Lee had received a \$15,000 grant to produce the film and the rest was paid with "pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters," according to Lee. He and his cast even used recycled cans and bottle deposits to finance film.

Lee said that his work helped to catalyze a second Harlem Renaissance by putting "African American riches on the screen."

For much of cinematic history, Lee said that blacks had been "relegated to the ghettos" in roles stereotyped for "balloons

and 'coons.'"

Lee used the 2004 film, "Cold Mountain," directed by Anthony Minghella as an example, stating that it was insane to have a film on the Civil War without one slave being shown.

“It's changed. If you're African-American today with [intellectual] qualities, you're ostracized.”

— Spike Lee filmmaker

Lee said that the stereotypical character of Mammie from "Gone with the Wind" had

more "dignity and humanity into stifling roles."

Lee also criticized popular "ghetto culture," and said that peer pressure today had many blacks incorrectly assume that they can only be real to their heritage if they were "rappers, drug dealers or ballers."

Lee said it is shameful that "more blacks are in prison today than enrolled in college." Lee added that BET culture stressed "dumbing down" to fit in, rather than stressing education.

"We did not ridicule anyone who was smart," Lee said. "It's changed. If you're African-American today with [intellectual] qualities, you're ostracized."

During a question-and-answer period that followed his remarks, Lee said that internships were available for his latest project that will begin shooting in August 2004. To apply, fax a cover letter and resumé to 40 Acres and a Mule Productions at 718-624-200.

PEEPS: Creating art

PEEPS, from page 3

variety of ways: fresh, stale, warm, microwaved, frozen, fricasseed, roasted and sometimes even as a pizza topping, DeLuca said. Many fans say Peeps are tastiest after they've hardened for two to three weeks.

Made mostly of sugar, with corn syrup, gelatin, potassium sorbate and a lot of air mixed in, marshmallow chicks as a candy concept originated with the Rodda Candy Co. of Lancaster, Pa. The originals were all yellow, but today they come in lavender, pink, electric blue and white (also known as albino).

With just 32 calories each and no fat, Peeps come conjoined in fives — an acute sugar-rush headache in a box.

The debate over Peeps as an icon boils down to whether a miasma of marshmallow has drowned out the spiritual message of the Resurrection. Some

argue that the Peep is to Easter what Santa Claus is to Christmas: the triumph of materialism over meaning.

Others see something more beneficial and nostalgic.

"It's a magical brand," said Matt Petronio, vice president for research, development and marketing at Just Born, Inc.

"Peeps are a must-have for Easter baskets. They bring back fond memories of childhood, Easter egg hunts, spring and families," he added.

American University communications professor Leonard Steinhorn, who is writing a book about the baby boom generation, thinks Peeps mania speaks to the diversity of the American culture.

"The great thing about Peeps is, at the end of the day, when you're done playing with them, you can eat them," Petronio said.

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UREC: Teams compete

UREC, from page 1

Team members wrapped up the games Saturday evening with an obstacle course race that included rock climbing, a balloon race and a swimming relay. Following the obstacle course, an awards ceremony was held to announce the winner of the games.

The Marketing/Operation Supervisors/Computing team won the games with 3,021 points, Dolan said. Placing second were the members of the Equipment Center/Sports Club team, with 2,401 points.

Teams received points for participation as well as for winning competitions, according to Helen Schubert, graduate assistant at UREC. Each team consisted of 15 to 20 members who competed under the supervision of UREC officials, Schubert added.

Junior Wendy deGorter, a MOSC team member, said, "We were the dark horse [to win] because we are marketing, computing and operation supervisors and not directly involved with fitness or recreation. I don't think anyone expected us to win."

"Many of our employees made T-shirts for this event, painted their faces and practiced [for events] in order to win," Dolan said. "We hope to make this an annual event for our employees."

Senior Jay Kelske, of the MOSC team, said, "I came out for ... volleyball and the obstacle course. In the [course], I did the balloon run in the relay race — [it was] not the manliest of events, but fun to say the least."

On his performance in the balloon run, Kelske said, "Unfortunately, I had no prior balloon-popping experience. My technique

was all wrong."

Senior Kevin Murphy of the ECSC team said, "My favorite part was ... meeting the different people around UREC."

Dolan said that graduate assistants Mark Salazar and Helen Schubert and Equipment Center employee senior Mark Tunstall organized the games.

"Through months of planning and organizing, the committee has brought together a week full of activities for our 250 plus student and professional employees," Dolan said.

Schubert said that the games were organized "to promote a team environment throughout UREC and within departments."

"Sometimes people work in the same department but don't get to know each other" because job shifts don't overlap, she added.

SGA: Singers' money denied

SGA, from page 1

amended the bill to \$128.05. However, after the meeting, the committee learned even that number may still not have been correct.

"[The Contemporary Gospel Singers] didn't know what things would cost," Gray said. "The numbers weren't at all accurate."

Senior Katherine Ferguson, College of Business senator, said the liaison between the finance committee and the organizations requesting money, "Categories of 'miscellaneous and other' [on a club's request for money] is unacceptable when we are giving out student money."

"We cannot give out student money for [a group's inaccurate estimate]," she added.

The Senate was faced with the decision on whether to send the bill back to the finance committee,

pass the bill as is — despite inaccurate figures — or veto the bill in its entirety.

Some senators said they felt there was a communication breakdown which resulted in the Contemporary Gospel Singers incorrectly filling out their forms to receive money.

"This is SGA's fault as much as the Contemporary Gospel Singers," said junior Ricardo Pineres, SGA committee chairperson for academic affairs. "We messed up in this process at some point. There was miscommunication [on the part of both parties involved]."

However, junior Lauren Broussard, diversity committee head, said the blame should not be put on the finance committee. "There is a contingency liaison there for a reason," she said.

"Nothing against [the

Contemporary Gospel Singers], but this is how things are done."

After more debate, the Senate finally vetoed the bill. The Senate passed Resolution 20, which said the SGA supports making JMU part of the Energy Star program, part of an Environmental Protection Agency initiative. JMU would receive free packets of information with steps that students and administrators could take to make the school more energy efficient.

The Senate also passed Resolution 21 to recognize the March Student of the Month. This was awarded to junior Wendy deGorter who has a 3.9 grade-point average and is a University Recreation marketing assistant, psychology teaching assistant and a member of Boarderline, JMU's snowboarding club.

The Breeze will be back April 15!



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APRIL 2004 ISSUE 103

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The Breeze

2003-04

Throwing hundreds of dollars per student in financial aid to such a small percentage of Ivy League students benefits far fewer than if the federal money was distributed fairly...

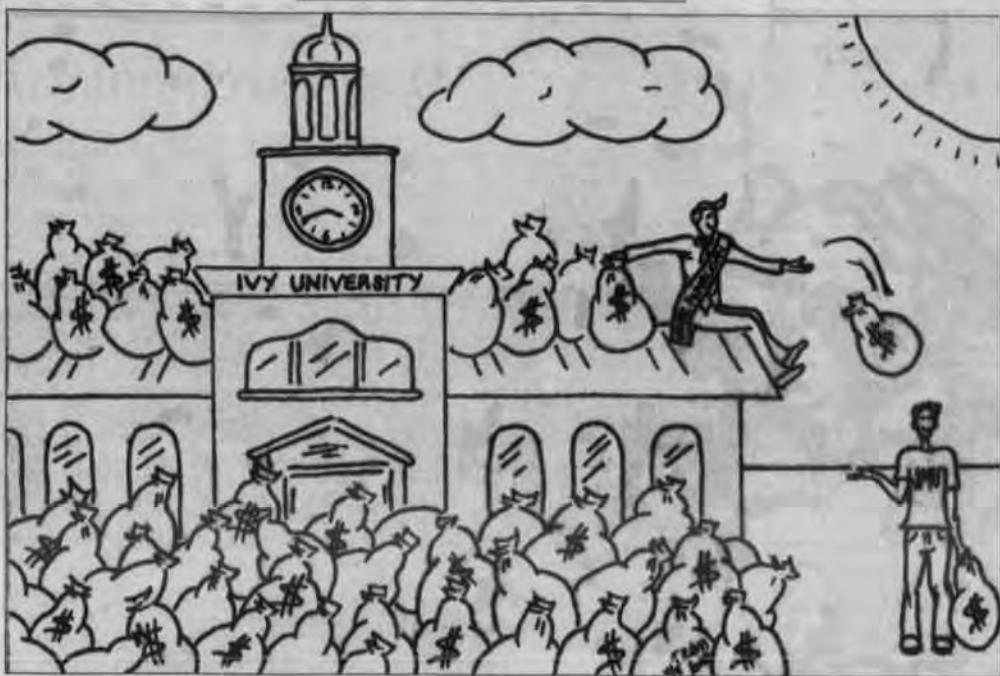
See house editorial below

OPINION

The commission treads a fine line, however, between its duty to determine where the U.S. government committed errors and the temptation to use this knowledge to assign blame...

See column below

HOUSE EDITORIAL



New bill 'Robin Hood' of college financial aid

New legislation from Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives could lead to a substantial decrease in federal funding for the financial aid programs at the country's most wealthy Ivy League schools.

In a Robin Hood-esque system that allows the rich to get richer and the poor to get poorer, the time has come for legislation that could more evenly distribute federal money among the less opulent universities in the nation.

Republicans argue that much of the \$1 billion or so dispensed by the national government for financial aid is not distributed fairly. Ivy League schools received five to 12 times the nationwide median of financial aid per applicant in 2000-'01, according to a Nov. 3, 2003 article in *The New York Times*.

The article cites Stanford University as an example, which receives \$211.80 for every student who applied for financial aid, whereas the median for all the nation's colleges — public and private — was \$14.38 per student. The University of Wisconsin-Madison received 21 cents per

applicant to run its low-interest Perkins loan program.

The article also stated *Times* researchers found a national trend in which "the federal government typically gives the wealthiest private universities, which often serve the smallest percentage of low-income students, significantly more financial aid money than their struggling counterparts with much greater shares of poor students."

And while it may initially seem appropriate that higher-cost institutions should receive more money, some private schools cost just as much to attend as Ivy League schools.

Additionally, many schools with substantial endowments and fewer lower-income students are capable of providing more aid, while many state schools do not have the same capabilities. The current system ignores this disparity, cheating the majority of the nation's schools and students out of greatly needed money.

Currently, federal financial aid is given as a base amount to supplement the institution's program. Historically, federal money was

granted on "an individual, almost negotiable basis," according to the *Times* article. It continues to state that, since the '70s, educational experts — not formulas — often determined aid distribution.

In 1980, Congress passed a formula to rectify the imbalance. In practice, however, the formula only applied to new money entering the program, never correcting the old inequality.

The only fair alternative is to recreate the financial aid system into one that considers the needs of all college students, not just the inflated prestige of the Ivy League.

A new formula could redistribute federal money based on the need of an institution and its students, better supporting lower-income students at schools holding smaller endowments.

Throwing hundreds of dollars per student in financial aid to such a small percent of Ivy League students benefits far fewer people than if the federal money was distributed fairly — that is to say, based on necessity.

The point of financial aid is to offer assistance to those who most need it — and most of the Ivy League doesn't.

Through Murky Waters Investigation's role not to place blame

Alex Sirney

The independent commission currently investigating the security and intelligence failures in the U.S. government associated with the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon was created by the U.S. Congress in November 2002. The legislation creating the commission came after a separate presidential commission failed to gather the information it required to complete its investigation earlier that year. The current commission is composed of 10 congressmen — five from each party — and is scheduled to have finished its investigation by May, six months before the presidential election in November.

The commission is charged with determining what went on in the U.S. government in regards to security prior to Sept. 11. To date, it has examined countless documents, as well as staff from both the current George W. Bush administration and the Bill Clinton administration before it. Now, Condoleezza Rice, Bush's national security adviser, as well as the president and vice president themselves, are scheduled to testify in front of the commission.

The commission treads a fine line, however, between its duty to determine where the U.S. government committed errors and the temptation to use this knowledge to assign blame for the tragedy to one or more individuals in the government.

There can be no doubt that somewhere within the U.S. government there was an intelligence failure prior to September 2001. Errors of this sort are not unprecedented, but unfortunately, this time, the error resulted in a lack of anticipation of the terrorist attacks against New York and Washington, D.C. These errors are an internal problem concerning the agencies involved, with the responsibility of dealing with those at fault squarely on the shoulders of the chiefs of the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and others.

The investigative commission can and should aid the

various agencies in their internal investigations through its work to determine what occurred in each prior to the terrorist attacks. The commission's mission should be a purely fact-finding one, however, and not one that seeks to do the job of the agencies' internal investigations.

If the errors lie within the highest levels of any of the agencies, then the responsibility falls to Bush to appropriately handle the situation, whether through removal of the offending parties or some other method. The Bush administration should investigate the directors and upper levels of the agencies involved independently to ensure that any errors committed were not committed at those levels and if they were, that they will not occur again.

... the responsibility falls to [George W.] Bush to appropriately handle the situation ...

The commission must not use its power and influence on the government and the media to place blame on anyone, or to absolve anyone of blame. Unless the commission finds an egregious error, it should restrain itself from pointing a condemning finger at any one person, or even any one organization.

This commission runs the risk that, if it is quick to pin the blame for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on any one person or in any one place, it will lose credibility in this election year — it would be seen as a partisan attempt to support or undermine Bush's reelection campaign. The commission should prepare to present all information it discovers to Congress. In turn, congress should not hesitate to place the blame on an individual or agency if it is warranted by gross negligence or inaction, but there

see COMMISSION, page 5

THE BREEZE

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

EDITORIAL POLICY

The house editorial reflects the opinion of the editorial board as a whole, and is not necessarily the opinion of any individual staff member of *The Breeze*.

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Letters to the editor should be no more than 500 words, columns should be no more than 900 words, and both will be published on a space available basis. They must be delivered to *The Breeze* by noon Tuesday or 5 p.m. Friday. *The Breeze* reserves the right to edit for clarity and space.

The opinions in this section do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper, this staff, or James Madison University.

DARTS & PATS

E-mail darts and pats to breezeop@hotmail.com
 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.

Pat...

A "you-are-glorious" pat to the naked kids relaxing in their van outside of the Festival on Saturday night. All I needed was a lighter, but I got a flash instead.
 From a sophomore guy who no longer needs to be reminded why he goes to JMU.

Dart...

A "thanks-for-having-an-inconvenient-birthday" dart to a friend who just had to be born on a day when I couldn't join the party.
 From a senior who hopes you have fun bushing the piñata without me.

Pat...

A "thanks-for-the-free-peep-show" pat to the girl who left her window open while she was having sex last week for all of our apartment complex to see.
 From your roommates, who love your craziness and think the apartment will be rather quiet next year when you graduate.

Dart...

A "thanks-for-ruining-my-dignity" dart to the girl who gave me the huge hickies last Saturday.
 From a sophomore guy who can't wait to go to class all week with his seven new "friends" on his body.

Pat...

A "thanks-for-going-out-of-your-way" pat to the guy who walked from Festival to Greek Row to return my cell phone last Thursday.
 From a careless — but very appreciative — sophomore who is glad there are dependable people in the world like you.

Dart...

A "thanks-for-scarring-me" dart to the boys behind the library who go couldn't wait to go "wee, wee, wee" until they got home.
 From a senior girl who was not happy to see the mark you left behind on JMU, and who will be especially cautious on her next trip to the library.



"Moths. Though they seem harmless, they're aggressive and militant. Trust me, I know!"

Cassie Landes
sophomore, music



"Horses, because they traumatized my friend Grace by mistaking her hair for hay."

Brian James Hannon
senior, english

CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

MARC CHOU/senior photographer



"Deer. If you live up north, you know you are not safe driving without fear of deer!"

Katie DeMaio
senior, ISS



"Dinosaurs ... oh wait, they're eliminated already."

Heather Geike
junior, SMAD

If you could eliminate any animal, what would it be and why?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Last month at JMU for fun, memories

Dear Editor,
Class of 2004, as you sit here and read this letter, take a moment and note the date. Today is April 8, 2004. There's exactly one month until graduation. That's exactly 30 days, or 720 hours. One year ago, I sat in the places you are now, in the same mind-set. In class, you think about graduate school or job interviews; in those interviews you contemplate what's going to happen this weekend; and at parties you wonder where the friends you have surrounded yourself with for these four — or five — years will be one year from now.
I remember the feeling. It's at the intersection of excitement, fear, accom-

plishment, nervousness, confidence and caution. It's such an emotionally charged and inspiring feeling, but has a draining element to it as well. It's time to part with what you know and love at JMU, and to start the next chapter of your lives.
This is where my message to you comes — don't start the next phase of your life just yet. Remember that you have 720 hours left to make an impact at James Madison. Don't just talk about doing it; commit to action. Your style might lead you to do it in the classroom, within a student group or while talking to some underclassmen at PC Dukes. Leave a piece of yourself with someone on campus. Consider talking more with the lunch ladies, writing a thank you note to

a staff member, or calling up Mark Warner, vice president of academic affairs, to set up an appointment just to have coffee.
In these last 30 days you are here, recognize that you are the cream of the crop. You're what all the underclassmen are working to become. Bask in your position at the top and share your knowledge, your memories and your passion with anyone who is willing to absorb it. Take a minute to reflect on all of the things that you accomplished while you were here. Then take five more minutes and challenge someone else to do the same. Tell them that you believe in their abilities and mean it. Your confidence is the greatest gift you can offer.
One year ago, I came to the realization that I had

only one month left. Rather than fear the last weeks slipping away, I took control and celebrated them. I made myself do one new thing each day and I didn't go to bed until I had. I spent more time at Waffle House and Kline's than I did sleeping. I took hours to finish meals, laughed far more often, and took rolls upon rolls of pictures. I made a conscious decision to get everything I could from the last month of my undergraduate career here. I made a month's worth of memories that I will remember for the rest of my life. Think about how much value you put on your personal JMU story. You have 720 hours left — how do you want this chapter to end?

David Urso
Graduate student ('03)

From the Wire Dog search unlawful

The U.S. Supreme Court decided yesterday to hear a case involving a driver charged with drug possession. The driver, Roy Caballes, was stopped for a routine speed violation when a canine unit searched his vehicle. \$250,000 worth of marijuana was found in the vehicle and confiscated.
The issue the Supreme Court will have to address is the legality of the search executed upon Caballes' property. Although he had declined to allow a search, a second officer arrived on scene with a canine unit just as the accused was about to be released. The officers led the dog on a search of the vehicle that indicated drugs were inside. Closer inspection yielded the marijuana.

Lower courts have been indecisive in determining the extent of the probable cause involved in Caballes' case. The police argue the trained canine units are acceptable as an indication of probable cause, as it only extends the sensory abilities of the officer. But surely, for that very reason, a dog is a method and tool of a search — not an identifying factor of probable cause.

A typical police dog is not in any way comparable to a flashlight used by an officer to run over a car or through the windows. The dog extends a great deal beyond the natural sensory abilities of any human being and can be used de-

facto as a method to reveal otherwise undetectable evidence — as Caballes' case demonstrates. There is an unreasonable capacity for detection that exceeds any cursory inspection used to identify probable cause.

The definitions of probable cause should extend no further than the personal ability of the officer. Any method that extends unreasonably beyond an officer's capability to identify clues implying incriminating activity constitutes a search. The officer is, by definition, seeking incriminating evidence without knowledge or suspicion of its presence — he is conducting a search.

Our laws and courts have demanded police observe the premise of probable cause. It is a system of law developed in this nation to protect the rights of the individual from abuse by the law, and the police must operate within it.

Because Caballes did not consent to be searched, the use of the canine unit to identify and locate his supply of illicit drugs in the absence of probable cause constitutes an unlawful search. The Supreme Court must protect the individual's rights against unreasonable searches and seizure and apply the process of probable cause to the use of canine units.

This staff editorial originally appeared in Virginia Tech's The Collegiate Times.

COMMISSION: Duty lies with Congress

COMMISSION, from page 7
must be no accusations made without sufficient support or resolve to take an appropriate course of action.
Bush and Rice have born the brunt of criticism for failing to adequately prepare the nation for the possibility of terrorist attacks against civilian targets in the United States, and stand to lose considerable politi-

cal ground if the criticism turns into fact — the presidential elections in November will be greatly influenced by whether or not the president's actions before and after Sept. 11 were justified. It is the responsibility of the commission to report only the facts it discovers and leave the debate of the significance of these facts to Congress and the

administration.
The ultimate responsibility for the interpretation of the findings falls first to Congress, to determine if any legal fault lies with any officials and, ultimately, to the American people to determine whether their elected officials truly represent their interests.
Alex Sirney is a freshman SMAD and anthropology major.

Bush and Rice... stand to lose considerable political ground if the criticism turns into fact.

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HOROSCOPES

Daily rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Today's Birthday (April 8). Once difficulties have been encountered, they'll have to be resolved. The good news is that you can resolve them. The prize is a new discovery. You'll get past old barriers if you're patient.

Aries March 21-April 19

Today is a 7 - You're under pressure to account for every penny and that's good. If you're thrifty, you may find that you have enough for a fabulous outing tomorrow.

Taurus April 20-May 20

Today is a 5 - Do the research so that you'll have the answers before it's time to act. The pressure will soon increase so get ready to accept it.

Gemini May 21-June 21

Today is a 7 - You're pushing to get things done, but you can't do it all by yourself. Besides, another person's expertise will soon be required. Ask for the help you'll need.

Cancer June 22-July 22

Today is a 6 - A commitment that at first seems quite romantic could lead to a lot more work. When you're doing it for family, it's fun - or almost fun, anyway.

Leo July 23-Aug. 22

Today is a 9 - The hard part is almost over, and it's time to celebrate. Don't wait until the weekend. Seize the day!

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Today is a 7 - You're not afraid to toss something out if it's no longer useful. There are several things around your place that you could do without, and the extra space will be welcome. Get to it.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct 22

Today is an 8 - You're interested in learning the truth, but don't talk about it yet. Listening is a better way to find out what's really going on. Encourage others to talk.

Scorpio Oct. 23-Nov. 21

Today is a 6 - The next thing for you to concentrate on is the money and where it comes from. You'll also need to know where it's going, of course. That'll be the next assignment.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21

Today is a 7 - You're growing. You're shedding your old, worn-out skin. You'll eventually find yourself on a higher level of enlightenment. In the meantime, relax.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Today is a 6 - Over the next few days you should make more time for contemplation. The answer you've been seeking has been hiding from you. You can find it in a dream, or while you're meditating.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18

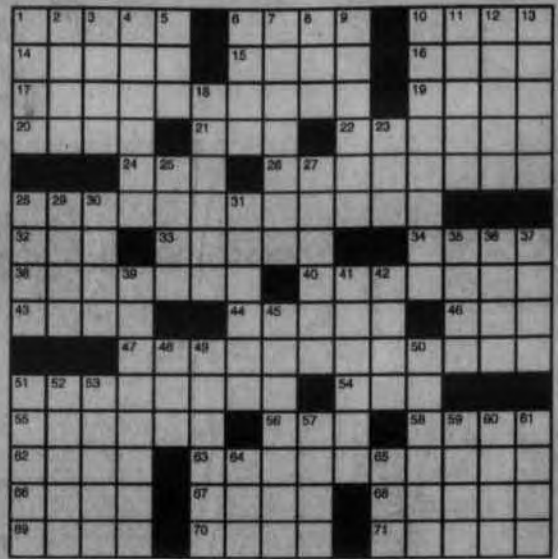
Today is a 7 - After you've patched your wounds, set up a meeting with favorite friends. Discuss what you've learned and come up with corrections to make you better at the game of life.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

Today is a 6 - In the coming few days you'll be able to make a good impression on a person who can help you increase your income. Take extra steps to make sure you look good.

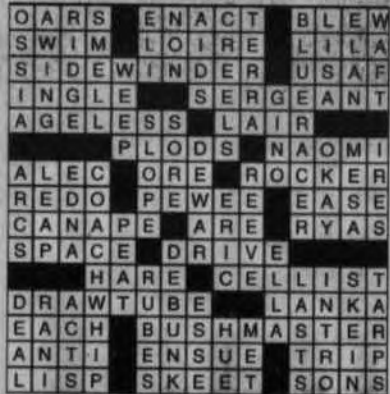
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|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| ACROSS | 47 Grocer's wheels | DOWN | 36 Designer Christian |
| 1 Fictional Doonee | 51 Merchant | 1 Good fortune | 37 Naysayer |
| 6 Pub choices | 54 Tibetan gazelle | 2 Dept. of Labor group | 39 Baked pasta dishes |
| 10 Detailed design, for short | 55 Reflected | 3 Actor Julia | 41 Ruler measurement |
| 14 United rival | 56 Erhard's program | 4 Creature comfort | 42 Jason's vessel |
| 15 Late-night notable | 58 Uttered | 5 Genesis craft | 45 Disseminates |
| 16 Cultivate | 62 Nothin' ___! | 6 Winglike | 48 Hop to it! |
| 17 Cowboy's wheels | 63 Surfer's wheels | 7 Exercise routine element | 49 Frump |
| 19 Pinza of "South Pacific" | 66 Sicilian volcano | 8 Rock composer Brian | 50 Offhand |
| 20 Curly-leaved vegetable | 67 Alan of "M*A*S*H" | 9 Beethoven's "Moonlight ___" | 51 Razzes |
| 21 Goblin | 68 Nobleman | 10 Soft-shell clams | 52 Wax theatrical |
| 22 Dot com biggie | 69 Match divisions | 11 Italian pie | 53 Contaminate |
| 24 Allen or Curry | 70 Main idea | 12 "The Waste Land" penner | 57 Ad-lib like Ella |
| 26 Final | 71 Irish county | 13 Exact copy | 59 India tourist stop |
| 28 Infant's wheels | | 18 WCTU part | 60 Composer Stravinsky |
| 32 Fury | | 23 USSR jet | 61 Unit of force |
| 33 Prepared to propose | | 25 Cloyingly sentimental | 64 Yale student |
| 34 Absorbed-dose units | | 27 Chinese tree | 65 Eng. channel |
| 38 Play-by-play man's cohort | | 28 Skewed view | |
| 40 Enduring | | 29 River in Tuscany | |
| 43 Pop | | 30 Small globule | |
| 44 "My Name Is ___ Lev" | | 31 Lay down fresh tracks | |
| 46 Besides | | 35 Dog in "The Thin Man" | |

Solutions to Last Issue's Puzzle



RIDDLE of the Day

Two legs I have, and this will confound: only at rest do they touch the ground! What am I?

Answer to last issue's riddle: Thursday

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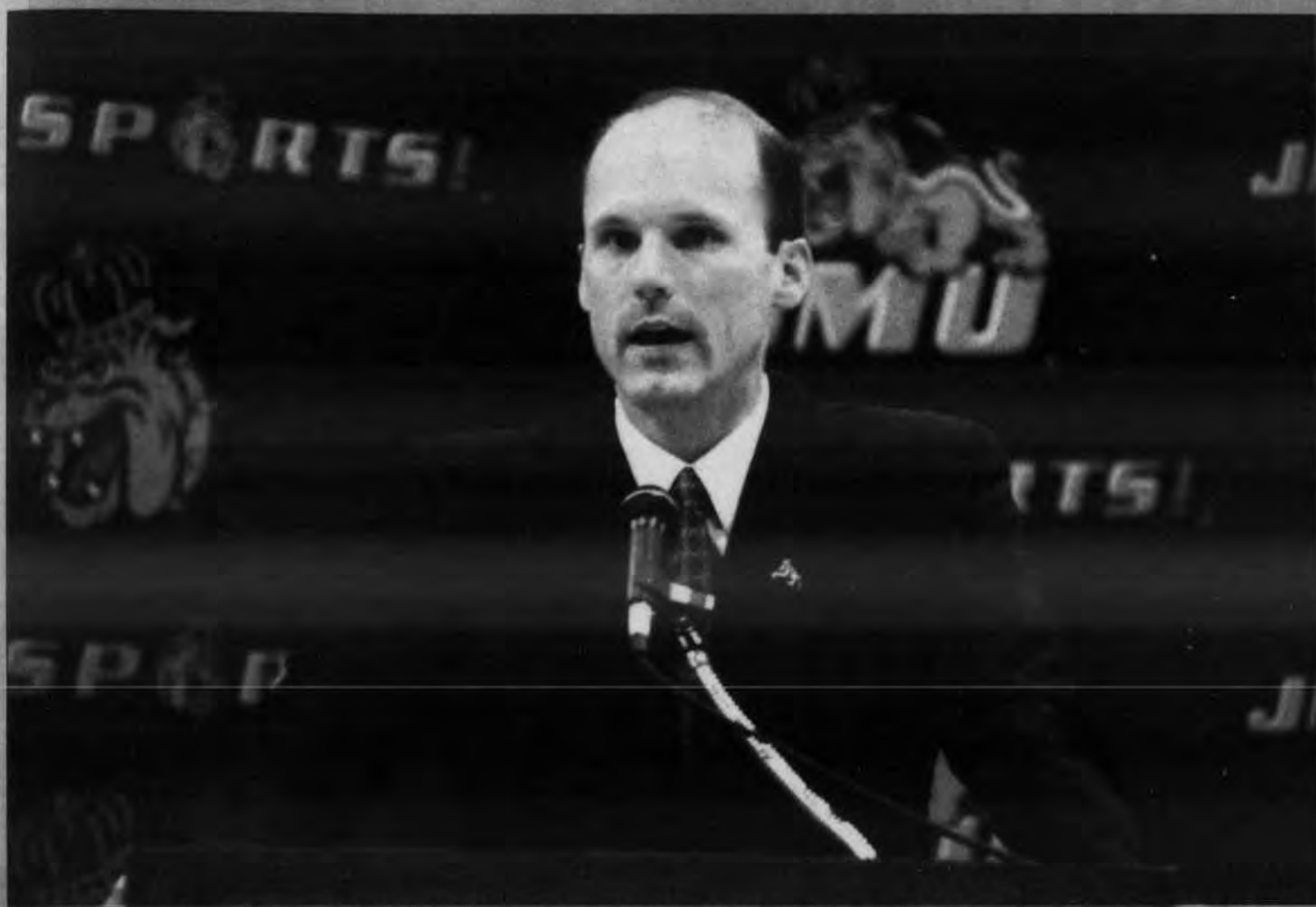
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MEET DEAN KEENER

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004 | THE BREEZE | SP1

Special Section



NATHAN CHIANTELLA/Photo editor

Dean Keener, the new men's basketball coach, talks to JMU fans and members of the media during his introductory press conference in the Convocation Center Wednesday.

From the Final Four to the Convo door

Dukes' introduce Dean Keener as new coach

Story by senior writer Brad Richards

Just a few minutes after 3 p.m. Wednesday, JMU men's basketball began a new chapter of its storied history.

Dean Keener officially was announced to the public as the new coach at a press conference in the Convocation Center.

"This is a dream come true for me and my family," Keener said.

He said he has ideas and expectations for the program in the upcoming seasons.

"I want a [men's basketball] program that JMU and its community can be proud of," Keener said. "With that in mind, I understand that I was hired to put a winning program on the floor. And we will do that."

Keener finished his tenure as an assistant coach at Georgia Tech three days ago, losing in the National Championship game Monday night to the University of Connecticut.

He replaces Sherman Dillard as the Dukes' next attempt at returning JMU to the glory that once existed during the '70s and '80s.

Dillard resigned March 7 after seven JMU seasons (1997-2004) where he compiled a 93-106 record. The

Dukes finished with a 7-21 record this season.

Keener, who has never held a head coaching position on the collegiate level, has been a part of numerous successful terms as an assistant.

He coached two seasons as an assistant at Drake University, one at the University of Southern California, four at Virginia Tech and two at Southern Methodist. He had a second stint with the Hokies during 1997-99 seasons, then joined Dillard's staff as an assistant in 1999.

Following his one year tenure as a JMU assistant in 1999-'00, Keener went to Atlanta and joined the staff of the Yellow Jackets' basketball coach Paul Hewitt.

It was made public Thursday, April 1, that athletic director Jeff Bourne had reached a five-year contract agreement with Keener after weeks of searching and interviewing possible candidates. The deal would allow him to take the reigns of JMU's struggling program.

The 38-year old Keener who graduated from Davidson College, is excited for the challenge that lies ahead of him.

"I am excited about the

future of JMU basketball," Keener said. "There are challenges ahead — no question about it. But, we want to meet those challenges sooner, [rather] than later."

The Dukes' new coach confessed his extreme competitiveness and compassion to the crowd as he pledged that it was one of his main goals to restore the energy of the "Electric Zoo" back into the Convocation Center. Keener plans to do this through a fast-paced style of play both offensively and defensively.

"We will extend the floor and press either three-quarter or full-court depending on our opponent and our depth," Keener said. "I think this a style that the players and fans enjoy."

In addition to restoring the proud JMU fan base, Keener also plans to have one of the best conditioned and fundamentally sound teams in the CAA.

"We're going to impress upon our kids a strong work ethic and we're going to work as hard as anyone," Keener said. "I think any team of greatness has to start from the defensive standpoint; our athletes are going to be in the best possible physical condition."





Keener a good fit to bring

Keener, Georgia Tech fall one win shy of NCAA title

By JAMES IRWIN
sports editor

The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets' run in the NCAA men's basketball tournament came to an end Monday night in San Antonio, Texas, with a 82-73 loss to the University of Connecticut Huskies.

Though the Yellow Jackets didn't get a chance to cut down the nets in victory, the season was still a dream for them and former assistant coach Dean Keener.

Keener officially was introduced as JMU's new men's basketball coach in a press conference yesterday at the Convocation Center.

"It's been an unbelievable season [for Georgia Tech]," Keener said.



think he's been a head coach in the waiting for some time."

The Yellow Jackets' run to the national title game put the cap on a season during which they exceeded many sports analysts' expectations.

Georgia Tech wasn't even a blip on the NCAA radar screen when the season began. The Yellow Jackets were coming off three-straight mediocre seasons as a middle-of-the-road Atlantic Coast Conference team. They were not a bad squad, but they were not known as a powerhouse ACC team by any means of the imagination.

All opinions changed Nov. 26, 2003 in a National Invitational Tournament semifinal game at Madison Square Garden in Manhattan.

Georgia Tech emerged after defeating then-No. 1 UConn on a grand stage, in front of a national audience on ESPN.

Suddenly, everyone began to pay attention to the underdogs from Georgia Tech.

The Yellow Jackets won their first 12 games of the season and wound up tied for third place in the ACC's regular season standings.

The team's final regular season record was 23-9 and they earned a No. 3 seed in the NCAA tournament. Coach Paul Hewitt was a leading candidate for National Coach of the Year and Keener's name was thrown around as a possible leading candidate for several coaching jobs across the country.

Still, not many people thought Georgia Tech had a chance to win the



HARRY E. WALKER/Knight Ridder Tribune

Above, Georgia Tech coach Paul Hewitt, center, motions to players as assistant coach Dean Keener, right, and director of operations Peter Zaharis, left, look on during Saturday's 67-65 win over Oklahoma State University in the Final Four. Keener was named JMU's new head coach last Thursday. Below, the University of Connecticut's Emeka Okafor (50) fights for a rebound with Georgia Tech's Luke Schenscher (12) during the NCAA championship game.

“This season culminated in reaching San Antonio ... this is as good as it gets for me.”

— Dean Keener
new JMU men's basketball coach

It's been a pretty busy week for Keener, as he was announced as the new coach last Thursday night by Athletic Director Jeff Bourne. It will be Keener's second stint at JMU, last serving as an assistant coach under Sherman Dillard for the 1999-'00 season.

Four days after the announcement was made, Keener coached his final game at Georgia Tech, a program he was very instrumental in improving over the last four years.

"Coach Keener is a really good X's and O's coach," said former JMU player Ian Caskill ('03), who was a freshman when Keener was an assistant at JMU. "He helped me a lot my freshman year, and I know for a fact that he has played a huge role in the success of the Georgia Tech program."

Ben D'Allessandro, a former JMU assistant coach and current Clemson University assistant coach, added, "I

national championship. The Yellow Jackets were in the same bracket as higher-ranked teams such as Gonzaga University and the University of Kentucky. Even if Georgia Tech survived several tough battles, they still would have to play either St. Joseph's University or Oklahoma State University before reaching the championship game.

Then March Madness officially arrived, and, one by one, the favorites fell. Kentucky and Gonzaga both lost in the second round, leaving the door open for Georgia Tech to step through to the Final Four.

There, the Yellow Jackets won a heart-stopping game against Oklahoma State on a last-second driving lay-up by guard Will Bynum. At that point, the team was ready to give Keener the greatest going-away present he could ever receive — a national championship.

But, UConn got in Georgia Tech's way. Specifically, Huskies center Emeka Okafor got in the way as he scored 24 points, gathered 15 rebounds and swatted a pair of shots in a dominating national championship-game effort.

Still, Georgia Tech should not be ashamed of their effort. They are the second-best team in college bas-



PATRICK SCHNEIDER/Charlotte Observer

ketball for the 2003-'04 season, and no one can ever take that away from them.

Just ask Keener. "This season culminated in reaching San Antonio," Keener said. "I've seen the highs and I've seen the lows in this profession, but, in 16 years, this is as good as it gets for me."

Meet coach Dean Keener

Dean Keener comes to JMU to take his first head coaching position after 16 years as an assistant.

Most recently, he was coach Paul Hewitt's right-hand man at Georgia Tech for four years.

Before moving to Atlanta, Ga., Keener was an assistant under former JMU coach Sherman Dillard.

JMU finished 20-9 that year but fell short of a Colonial Athletic Association title, losing in the second round of the CAA Tournament.

After Keener's hiring March 31, JMU became the second school for which he's a retreat. Previously, he served two tours at Virginia Tech, the first from 1992 to 1995 with head coach Bill Foster. Keener helped the Hokies win a NIT title in his final year.

His second go round in Blacksburg was for one year (1998-'99) under Foster's successor, Bobby Hussey, just before the move up Interstate-81 to Harrisonburg.

Other stops for Keener include Southern Methodist University in 1996-'97 for two years, the University of Southern California in 1991-'92 and Drake University for two seasons in 1989-'90.

Keener is an alumnus of Davidson College, from which he graduated in 1988. At Davidson, he played basketball under coach Hussey and was a co-captain on the Wildcats' 1986-'87 NCAA Tournament team.

Keener is a native of Tallmadge, Ohio, and has a bachelor's degree in economics from Davidson.

JMU players ready for fresh start under Keener



FILE PHOTO/Chris Lubrano

Freshman center Eddie Greene-Long (4) thinks his game will improve under Dean Keener because the new coach has had past success teaching post players.

By MATTHEW STOSS
assistant sports editor

JMU is coming off the worst stretch of basketball in its hoops history.

After finishing the season 7-21 overall and going an abysmal 3-15 in the Colonial Athletic Association, the Dukes limped to Richmond for the CAA Conference Tournament, where JMU lost in the game for the second straight year.

Since the Sherman Dillard coaching era began in 1997, JMU's record is 93-106. During this time, the Dukes logged three winning seasons in seven years.

Their best came in the 1999-'00 when the team finished 20-9 on its way to a second round elimination in the CAA tournament to the University of Richmond.

"Sometimes you need a new start," red-shirt sophomore forward David Cooper said. "That's how it goes."

The new start comes in the form of one, Dean Keener.

Keener, fresh off a Final Four appearance as an assistant with Georgia Tech, is excited to take the reins of a program in need of assistance.

"I'm coming into the program where it's probably healthier than when [Dillard] took over, in many respects," Keener said.

When Dillard took over in '97, he assumed a tradition-

rich program that had a history of winning — which Dillard himself had been a part of.

Dillard played at JMU from 1974-'78 where he became the first player to score 2,000 points and played under coach, Lou Campanelli.

Under Campanelli's reign, the Dukes were perennial winners and, in one stint between 1981 and 1983, made three straight NCAA Tournament appearances.

The team's next dance date wouldn't come until 1994 with coach "Lefty" Driesell.

When Driesell left after the 1996-'97 season, the Dukes were coming off a 16-13 year in which they made it to the CAA Championship game but fell short, losing to Old Dominion University in overtime.

Keener comes to JMU after 16 years of being an assistant, mostly at mid-major programs like JMU.

"I think I understand the culture of JMU and, more importantly, things relative to the basketball program," Keener said. "There are a lot of things to do here."

After the successes of JMU's past teams, the current squad is looking forward to a new coach and a new beginning for Dukes' basketball.

"I think coach Keener could breathe new life into the program," freshman guard Ray Barbosa said. "He sounds like a real energetic guy."

Energy is something that JMU could use these days.

Even though attendance at the Convocation Center still is respectable in the CAA, it pales when compared to the days of the "Electric Zoo."

The "Zoo" was the cheering section, much in the fashion of the Duke University's Cameron Crazies — only it applied to everyone in the Convocation Center, and Godwin Hall before it, however, it has faded along with the team.

And perhaps more than energy, the hiring of Keener brings with it an element of credibility.

"It's going to help our team a lot," freshman center Eddie Greene-Long said. "He's coming from being under what I consider to be one of the best coaches in the country in (Georgia Tech head coach) Paul Hewitt."

"To have [Keener] come to JMU and join our family, I'm very excited," he added.

The credibility extends further than just his most recent job under Hewitt at Georgia Tech.

Before heading to Atlanta, Keener was an assistant under Dillard at JMU during Dillard's best season in 1999-'00.

And before that, Keener was on a staff at Virginia Tech under head coach Bill Foster that won the NIT in 1995.

But as of last Thursday

night, Keener's 16-year apprenticeship was over.

"Having never called a timeout — you think you're prepared and you think you're ready," Keener said.

"I'm sure that there are going to be some things that come up, but, hopefully I've seen them and I'll have some people to lean on," he added. "Our staff will come into play with that."

When asked about his staff, Keener said, "Everyone can be assured that we will have a quality staff that will be energetic."

Excitement and energy seem to be the prevailing emotions around Harrisonburg, after the announcement of Keener's hiring Thursday — especially from returning players who, in addition to their anticipation, expect a continuation of Keener's preceding success.

"Being at Georgia Tech and playing in the national championship game — he knows what it takes," Cooper said. "It's going to be hard and I think he's going to push us, but I think we're going to have a lot of fun because we're going to see ourselves getting better."

Barbosa summed up the team's feelings toward Keener's hiring.

"We think coach Keener's a good fit at JMU," he said.



Photos by NATHAN CHIANTELLA/photo editor and DREW WILSON/senior photographer

Success back to program

Coach known for recruiting prowess

BY DREW WILSON
senior writer

As Georgia Tech made its run to the NCAA men's basketball tournament's Final Four, its success was built around the talent of the Yellow Jacket players over the last four seasons. One of the main people to thank for that development is Dean Keener.

In his four seasons in Atlanta, Keener was the lead recruiter with Georgia Tech. In addition to coaching on the court, Keener made a niche for himself in the recruiting aspect of the game during his 16 seasons as an assistant in college basketball.

"Recruiting is the lifeblood of any program," Keener said. "No matter how organized you are and how great a coach you are, it is difficult to have a successful program without successful players."

Keener is a great recruiter because he has the qualities needed to be successful, according to Clemson University assistant Ben D'Allessandro, who was an assistant coach with Keener during the Dukes' 1999-'00 season.

"The No. 1 quality of any great recruiter is your work ethic and how you build relationships," he said. "Those are the two things that Dean is very good at. He is an extremely hard worker and he's a great person. People are attracted to his personality. He's very genuine."

JMU women's basketball coach Kenny Brooks, who also was an assistant with Keener during the 1999-'00 season, said Keener's professionalism and the way he treats people carries over to

his recruiting abilities.

"He's one of the best recruiters that I've seen because he is a tireless worker and he is so organized," Brooks said.

Those qualities helped Keener land recruits such as current Toronto Raptors rookie Chris Bosh, who went pro after one season at Georgia Tech.

"He has helped get the big time talent to Georgia Tech, and I believe he will be doing the same at JMU for a number of years," said Ian Caskill ('03), who played as a freshman at JMU under Keener's tenure.

"Kids will want to come play for Dean Keener, and he will attract some good talent to JMU," Caskill added.

Red-shirt sophomore forward David Cooper said JMU historically has recruited talent, and that Keener can help bring in more talent.

"I think he can help us mold our talent to the maximum of our potential," Cooper said.

However, recruiting in a mid-major such as the Colonial Athletic Association is a lot different from recruiting blue-chip prospects at schools such as Georgia Tech in a big-time league such as the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"It's vitally important to identify who JMU can recruit and who we can get," Keener said. "We'd all love to recruit the great name players. In some cases, JMU may not be able to attract those kind of kids."

"But, we need to recruit players that can help us win the CAA, kids that are going to help us succeed academically, possess outstanding skill, have a great work ethic, get along well with others and guys that are hard to guard," he added.



Courtesy of GEORGIA TECH SPORTS MEDIA RELATIONS

Dean Keener addresses Georgia Tech player B.J. Elder as he returns to the sideline earlier this season. Keener helped recruit many of the Yellow Jackets' talented players.

Keener gets approval from former co-workers

BY DREW WILSON
senior writer

When Kenny Brooks and Dean Keener were assistant coaches together on the JMU men's basketball team during the 1999-'00 season, the two became good friends. Occasionally, Brooks would stop by Keener's office to chat where he'd have a little fun with his co-worker.

"I used to mess with him a lot," Brooks recalled. "His office was always immaculate. When I would go in there, I would turn something around on purpose just to make it out of sorts a little bit. Without even blinking an eye, he was fixing it and turning it back around."

Although the two have remained friends since Keener left JMU following that season, Brooks, now the JMU women's basketball coach, can pick up where he left off with Keener returning to coach the men's team.

But all joking aside, Brooks said Keener was the perfect fit for the Dukes.

"I'm very happy for him — very happy for the program and very happy for the school," Brooks said.

"He's a fine person. I think if you give him a little bit of time, he'll definitely turn the program around."

Brooks isn't the only person who thinks JMU made the right decision. Clemson University assistant Ben D'Allessandro, an assistant at JMU from 1999-'03, and former JMU player Ian Caskill ('03) also think Keener will do a great job taking over the reins.

"I think it's absolutely tremendous for JMU," D'Allessandro said. "I think they have a great person. I think he really has a passion for coaching the right way, and that's wonderful in this day and age."

Caskill said Keener has paid his dues as an assistant and was very happy to see Keener get the job.

"I know that a lot of people wanted a big-name guy, but I think that JMU made the right move in this situation," he said. "I wanted to see someone who would be around a little while and build a good program."

Even though Brooks and Keener only worked at JMU one season together, Brooks said he learned more from

Keener than anyone else that he's worked with, or worked for.

D'Allessandro said Keener has been a head coach in waiting for some time.

"I was extremely impressed working with him and learned a great deal from him," D'Allessandro said. "I saw a budding head coach in the making."

So what makes Keener such a great coach?

"He takes time to get to know you as a person no matter who you are," Caskill said. "I think that fits in good to the JMU community. Coach Keener is a very upbeat and positive person who prides himself in working hard and he will instill that in his players."

"Coach Keener helped me a lot my freshman year," Caskill added. "He used to work me out and he taught me a lot of things, including using my left hand and improving my free throw mechanics."

Caskill said there is no doubt that Keener can move JMU into the right direction.

"I expect this to happen more sooner than later," he said.

10 questions with coach Dean Keener

By Drew Wilson
senior writer

1 What is your favorite pro sports team?

"The Cleveland Cavaliers because of LeBron James. He's the next great one in the league."

2 What is the best sporting event you've ever been to?

"The Masters, before we went to the Final Four this weekend."

3 What is the best destination you've ever traveled to?

"Australia. I went in August, 1993 for three weeks and purely pleasure. I visited several cities, including Sydney, and had a blast."

4 What do you like to do in your spare time?

"I dearly love spending time with my wife and two children."

5 What's your favorite type of pizza?

"Supreme. I love anything but anchovies."

6 What is the best advice you've ever received?

"From my mother — 'be thankful every day for what you have.'"

7 What is your favorite color?

"I have two — purple and gold."

8 From your previous year here, what was your favorite JMU moment?

"I remember us beating Richmond here on a 3-point shot by Mickey Dennis ('01). That was a tremendous win for us."

9 Who is your most favorite player that you've coached?

"Chris Bosh (at Georgia Tech). In fact, he called me today."

10 Where do you see yourself five years from now?

"As head coach of JMU, cutting down another CAA Championship net."

Keener on the Colonial Athletic Association:

"It's an unbelievably competitive league, and for years now, it's been a one-bid league. I found it very encouraging that two teams received NIT bids this year — Drexel and George Mason. I think that shows the respect nationally for this league and where these teams are headed."



Courtesy of GEORGIA TECH SPORTS MEDIA RELATIONS

Dean Keener was an assistant coach at JMU during the 1999-'00 season. Two other assistant coaches on that team, Kenny Brooks and Ben D'Allessandro, both think Keener is the right guy for JMU.

A look back at JMU's Coaches

Charles Branscom (1963-'71)
20-17 (.541) record

Dean Ehlers (1971-'72)
16-7 (.696) record

Lou Campanelli (1972-'85)
238-118 (.669) record

John Thurston (1985-'86)
71-44 (.613) record

"Lofty" Driesell (1988-'97)
159-111 (.589) record

Sherman Dillard (1997-2004)
93-106 (.467) record

THE HOT CORNER**Keener can do good things, but it will take some time**

Since graduating from Davidson College in 1988, and before being hired as men's basketball coach, Dean Keener was a college basketball assistant for 16 seasons.

This coaching career included a short stint at JMU and, most recently, a four-year tenure at Georgia Tech, where the Yellow Jackets were national runners-up in Keener's last season.

Part of the lure in bringing in a proven assistant coach with experience at a major university is that he has "been down that road before." Keener is no exception to this rule. After coaching and recruiting for an Atlantic Coast Conference team, he should make the transition back to JMU fairly easily.

Keener is a coach who should not be fazed by the pressures of the Colonial Athletic Association.

No offense to the CAA, but Keener spent his final days with Georgia Tech practicing in front of more fans and members of the media than JMU usually plays in front of at its home games. Pressure should not be a problem — even given the competitiveness of this conference.

Keener also will bring a winning attitude to JMU. The Dukes have not had a winning season since 1999-'00 (also the lone year that Keener served as an assistant to former coach Sherman Dillard) and are in dire need of a turnaround campaign — starting now.

Several factors went into the decision to bring Keener back to JMU. He is familiar with JMU basketball and the university

and is an up-and-coming coach with what looks to be a bright future ahead of him. Because of the recent success of his Yellow Jackets, Keener also is associated with winning and having a tough mental attitude.

Remember, this is the Georgia Tech team that ended Duke University's 41-home game winning streak last month.

This is the same team that beat Oklahoma State University in the national semifinals. This is the team that, though overmatched Monday night, was relentless in not giving up against the University of Connecticut Huskies, hitting 3-pointers and fouling UConn players until the bitter end of their 9-point loss.

It is the toughness of playing and succeeding under high pressure conditions that made the Yellow Jackets' run so impressive. For these same reasons, Keener became a very attractive choice for the Dukes' coaching vacancy.

However, questions still arise: Can Keener do it? Can he go from Final Four to CAA basement and resurrect a program that has been in dismal straits for the past four years?

Will his lack of head coaching experience leave him ill-suited for the job? And, finally, will people expect too much too soon?

Keener's run at Georgia Tech will solve all but one of these problems. Yes, given the right personnel and players, he can bring this program back to CAA prominence.

Keener gets to choose his own assistants to coach alongside him at JMU and he was Georgia Tech's top recruiter, so the man has an eye for talent.

No, Keener's lack of head coaching experience should not hurt him in any way. Keener sat on court level in San Antonio, Texas, last week as the lead assistant coach for the second best team in the country. Experience is something that he does not lack.

That leaves the final burning question. Will people expect too much from Keener too soon?

In the end, they probably will, as Keener signed a five-year contract and is focused on being competitive now. However, with the way the Dukes played at times last season, it looks like it will be at least a year or two before they will be able to compete for that elusive CAA automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Keener's success and experience as an assistant coach (particularly at Georgia Tech) will enable him to turn this program around in a fairly short period of time. But, don't expect too much from him too soon.

After all, even Rome wasn't built in a day.

James Irwin is a sophomore SMAD major who is looking forward to the beginning of the Dean Keener era at JMU.



JAMES IRWIN



Photos by DREW WILSON/senior photographer

Above, Dean Keener talks to the media following a press conference to introduce him as the new men's basketball coach Wednesday. Below, Keener greets a line of JMU fans who attended the press conference in the Convocation Center following his introduction.



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This Weekend in **JMU** Athletics

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

BASEBALL vs. TOWSON
3:00 PM
LONG FIELD/MAUCK STADIUM



SOFTBALL vs. GEORGE MASON
4:00 PM
JMU SOFTBALL COMPLEX

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

WOMEN'S GOLF
JMU INVITATIONAL
8:00 AM
LAKEVIEW GOLF COURSE

SOFTBALL vs. GEORGE MASON (DH)
NOON
JMU SOFTBALL COMPLEX

BASEBALL vs. TOWSON
1:00 PM
LONG FIELD/MAUCK STADIUM



SUNDAY, APRIL 11

WOMEN'S GOLF
JMU INVITATIONAL
8:00 AM
LAKEVIEW GOLF COURSE

BASEBALL vs. TOWSON
1:00 PM
LONG FIELD/MAUCK STADIUM

JMUSP  **RTS**

Scoreboard

Thursday, April 8

Softball		
Mt. St. Mary	2	0
JMU	1	8
Baseball		
JMU	2	
Radford	5	

SPORTS

"You need to put [a game like this] behind you and try and bounce back ..."

MIKE BUTIA
junior, right fielder
See story below

SOFTBALL

George sisters ignite Dukes



KEVAN MACTIVER/senior photographer

Junior right-handed pitcher Liz George, right, and her sister, freshman shortstop Katie are two major reasons why the Dukes' are currently tied for first place in the Colonial Athletic Association.

BY MATTHEW STOSS
assistant sports editor

JMU has a sister act — and it doesn't star Whoopi Goldberg in a habit. It features sisters Liz and Katie George.

The Virginia Beach natives and Tallwood High School products came to Harrisonburg to play softball for the Dukes with Liz being a member of JMU's very first recruiting class.

Liz George is a junior right-handed pitcher, who can be found ranging the outfield when she's not in the circle. Katie George is a true freshman starting shortstop and resident leadoff hitter.

Eight weeks into the 2004 softball season, the two sisters are turning out to be a double threat with a hardy disposition for competition.

"I've never had the opportunity to coach sisters," coach Katie Flynn said. "They work really hard and are very competitive."

"You don't want to get them mad," she added. "That feistiness and competitiveness is something I really value in a player."

The elder George leads the

team in hitting and, was batting .382 with a home run. Her 39 hits are good for first on the team and her 15 RBI tie her for third amongst her teammates.

In addition to her offensive prowess, she is second in innings pitched (87) and her earned-run average of 3.41 is right behind staff ace, sophomore Briana Carrera. According to George, the double duty only makes her better.

"As a pitcher, I know how pitchers think when I'm batting," she said. "When I'm down in the count, it definitely gives me an advantage."

Coach Flynn couldn't agree more. "Double duty is tough," Flynn said. "But, it really helps in the pitching position when you have someone who can hit and play defense; that versatility is very helpful to the team."

However, younger sister Katie is right on Liz's heels.

The freshman shortstop trails her older sister in hits by three with 36 and has started all of JMU's 35 games thus far a feat accentuated by this year being only her first on campus.

"Everyone here is bigger and

faster," Katie George said. "[Players] hit the balls a lot harder, and it took awhile to adjust to everything happening so much quicker."

The transition seems to have been successful.

Katie is batting .310 and has crushed 3 home runs tying her for fifth in the Colonial Athletic Association — an apparent oddity for George, considering she had never gone deep until her collegiate career.

"That's surprising," the shortstop said. "I really don't think I've hit a home run over the fence in my life, so my first three home runs were in college."

She also has managed to garner some early conference honors.

For the week ending March 2, she was named CAA Rookie of the Week, which she followed up the very next week by earning CAA Player of the Week honors.

"The first two tournaments [of the season], I didn't have a starting position," George said. "I felt like I had to prove myself, so I went out there and tried to play the best I could — it turned out really well."

Her bat, however, isn't the only aspect of her game making noise. Coach Flynn loves what Katie can do while patrolling the hole at short.

"She clogs up the whole middle [of the field]," Flynn said. "She gets to things, and, once a week, she does something that makes us, [as coaches of 15 years], say 'wow' — and she's only a freshman."

Having a sibling on the team has its benefits, according to both sisters. Counsel, support and friendship were listed by both, but, if you're the elder, it carries certain other advantages.

Freshmen and rookies usually get stuck with the grunt work on sports teams, in both amateur and professional leagues. In softball, that consists of raking, sweeping the field and carrying equipment.

"I think I was harder on her than the other freshman," Liz George said, "but only because she was my sister and I knew I could get away it. I didn't get on her too much though."

It almost didn't work out for

see GEORGE, page 11

THE HOT CORNER

Team president running Knicks into the ground

I must be honest — I don't enjoy present-day professional basketball. Maybe it's the stereotypical image of the players, or maybe it's because no one has stepped up to become the Michael Jordan or Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of this generation. In all likelihood, however, it's because I believe that team president Isaiah Thomas is running the New York Knicks into the ground.

What can I say? I'm a New Yorker — if my team is in trouble, I automatically take a negative view of the entire league. You should have seen me during football season. As the New York Giants were stumbling towards a 4-12 campaign, I could be heard sarcastically hissing obscenities and phrases such as "Awesome, Tiki Barber fumbled again!" Needless to say, it wasn't pretty.

I am concerned with the current state of the NBA because I believe that my negative opinion of the Knicks will soon become a personal hatred of professional basketball. I wish it wouldn't happen, but I'm sure it will.



JAMES IRWIN

You see, I'm skeptical about Thomas' plans for New York. As a player with the Detroit Pistons, he was known as a fiery, competitive player with a mean streak and a quick temper. In his most recent professional position as coach of the Indiana Pacers he was known as exactly the same.

Thomas tends to make enemies and wear out his welcome very quickly. After being fired by Indiana general manager Larry Bird, Thomas landed the most high-profile NBA job in the most high-profile city in America with a team struggling to get back to prominence.

New York hasn't had a legitimate playoff contender since former center Patrick Ewing was released four years ago. The 2001-'02 season was a disaster, and coach Jeff Van Gundy resigned from his position only 19 games into the campaign. Interim coach Don Chaney took over for Van Gundy and led the Knicks to their first losing record in 10 years.

The Knicks finished with a 37-45 record in 2002-'03 and were on their way to another lost season this year when President Scott Layden was fired from his position.

Enter Thomas, who made trades and moves, picking and choosing players like a kid in a candy store. First, he fired Chaney and replaced him with Lenny Wilkins, the man who has won more NBA games than anyone in the league's history. As a fan, I respect the move; sometimes you just need a solid coach to get things started.

Unfortunately, Thomas went overboard.

The blockbuster move of the NBA season was a trade between New York and the Phoenix Suns. It was a deal that brought beleaguered, but talented point guard Stephan Marbury to the Knicks. This is a homecoming for the New York native and Stephan's strong play, complemented by several other deals by Thomas, now has the Knicks in playoff contention.

So why am I so skeptical? If anything, I should be breaking out my retro John Starks jersey and planning a ticker tape parade.

First off, I've never been a big Thomas fan. Second — and most importantly — I believe his trades are getting the Knicks to the playoffs this year at the expense of their future well-being.

Don't worry fans — the Knicks won't fold, but I've taken a look down the road into their future and I don't like what I see.

Marbury and shooting guard Allan Houston are combining to make too much money. When I say too much money, I mean that, in two or three years, the Knicks will be forced to make a tough decision: Will they keep their two All-Star-caliber players, or will they re-sign the talented role players that surround them?

The Knicks can't have both. They already boast the highest payroll in the NBA and, unlike the New York Yankees, they don't have the benefit of playing in a salary cap-free environment found in Major League Baseball.

As a result, either Marbury or Houston will have to leave town or New York will lose the solid play of forward Kurt Thomas, or another player of similar caliber.

When this happens, I can see the Knicks hitting low tide again. Isaiah Thomas will bolt to another team and leave a mess for someone else to clean up. The Knicks will be in salary cap trouble for much of the near future, and I will be left with a four-month, sports gap to fill every year because of my personal NBA boycott.

All I want to do is sit on my couch, wear my Starks jersey and watch my Knicks.

Instead, Isaiah Thomas has me wondering when football season starts.

James Irwin is a sophomore SMAD major who wishes that Patrick Ewing would return to the Knicks and take over as team president.

BASEBALL

Diamond Dukes beat at own game

JMU suffers home defeat, Virginia Tech scores 8 runs in ninth inning for comeback victory

BY RYAN HUDSON
contributing writer

JMU got a taste of its own medicine against Virginia Tech Tuesday at Long Field/Mauk Stadium.

The Hokies stole a page from the Diamond Dukes' playbook as they overcame a late-inning deficit to win the game, 10-5, scoring eight runs in the ninth inning.

"You need to put [a game like this] behind you and try and bounce back," said junior right fielder Mike Butia. "I just think we came out a little flat today and they kind of snuck up on us there in the last inning. That's how baseball goes sometimes. Hopefully we can bounce back tomorrow."

The win snapped Tech's seven-game losing streak

and improved its overall record to 13-13. The Diamond Dukes fell to 19-10 and have lost five of their last seven games.

The contest began as a pitcher's duel between freshman left-hander Jacob Cook and Tech's Josh Biber. After the first six innings, the Diamond Dukes had a 2-0 lead. Their scoring came off the bat of sophomore third baseman Nate Schill, who hit a 2-run home run to right field, his sixth of the season.

Cook, who was making his first career start, gave up only 2 runs, 1 earned run and struck out three in seven innings of work.

"He did a real nice job," coach Spanky McFarland said. "He's gotten better and better as the year goes on and we're going to use him more and more."

In the seventh inning, the Hokies finally solved Cook and tied



KYRA PAPAFI/junior photographer

Freshman center fielder Brandon Bowser slides into third base ahead of the throw during JMU's 10-5 loss to the Virginia Tech Hokies Tuesday at Long Field/Mauk Stadium.

the game up by scoring a pair of runs.

After Cook put the first two batters on base by allowing a single and a walk, Hokies cen-

ter fielder Sheldon Adams laid down a bunt that Cook threw into right field. That error allowed Tech first baseman Matt Kalish to score.

The Hokies added a second run with another single that snapped an 18 inning

see BASEBALL, page 11

GEORGE: Sisters are ready for CAA play

GEORGE, from page 11

there to be a pair of George sisters playing side by side at the JMU Softball Complex.

Early on, it looked like one sister might not make it in the world of sports.

"When Katie and I first started playing, [our family] thought she was the least athletic [of the two of us]," Liz George said about her sister. "She just didn't throw right, but she ended up coming this far."

Fortunately for the Dukes, Katie learned how to throw and now allows JMU to start two talented sisters — a big plus, as the team finds its self in conference play.

Brandishing a record of 12-3 in their last 15 games, the Dukes are riding a hot streak into the CAA portion of their season.

“We give each other someone to talk to. We understand each other better than anybody.”

— Liz George
junior pitcher

"The team is really coming together, and individually getting better as the season goes on," Katie George said.

As for the sisters, they just like having each other around.

"I really like having her here," Liz George said. "We give each other someone to talk to. We understand each other better than anybody."



Junior right-hander Liz George warms up with long toss before the start of practice on Tuesday afternoon.

BASEBALL: Dukes fall to Hokies' rally

BASEBALL, from page 11

scoreless streak for the Hokies.

JMU got their 2 runs back in the bottom of the inning on a single by Schill and RBI triple off the bat of freshman shortstop Davis Stoneburner.

Freshman center fielder Brandon Bowser followed with a single up the middle, bringing home Stoneburner to put the Diamond Dukes back up at 4-2.

JMU added another run when Bowser led off with a triple and scored on sophomore second baseman Michael Cowgill's single up the middle. Cowgill has now hit safely in 26 of 29 games this season.

JMU led 5-2 heading into the ninth, needing just three outs for the win. Instead, what it got was an inning that wouldn't end. After all was said and done, Virginia Tech

had sent 12 men to the plate, scored 8 runs on seven hits and the Diamond Dukes had committed three errors.

McFarland cited the Diamond Dukes' inability to put Tech away as a reason that the Hokies were able to come from behind.

"You can't let a team hang around like that," McFarland said. "We had several opportunities to put this team away. [When you're down] 3 runs, everyone feels like they can score 3, but you get down 4, 5 or 6, and all of a sudden it's almost a hopeless feeling."

Unfortunately, JMU never quite put the Hokies away, and, in the end, it cost them the game.

"We'll just go out there [to Radford University] and make plays," Stoneburner said. "Hopefully we'll learn from this and not let it happen again."

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FOCUS

don't leave jmu without...

Students suggest activities to do before graduation

Story by senior writer Kyra Papafil
Graphics by art director Jenny Chanthapanya

have an experience

Looking back on their academic careers at JMU, many students leave Harrisonburg without a complaint or list of things left undone. More and more students, however, are finding their college experiences consist mostly of time spent in the classroom or at parties. With roughly five weeks, until the end of the school year there are several things that students said others should do before graduation.

People have experiences every day, but there is a difference between experiencing mundane activities and stepping outside of one's comfort zone. Join a club or organization — anything from a religious or culturally based association to a post-graduate professional organization. Round out a résumé with volunteer work, a great internship or work experience within school. While such experiences will look great to employers, the personal benefits gained from any of these activities will far outweigh type on a résumé. "Not everyone leaves a mark that will be remembered for years to come in everyone's minds," said senior Hallie Boisseau. "But, the mark that each person leaves within their friendships will continue on after graduation."

get to know your surroundings

There are many perks to being a student both on campus and in Harrisonburg. For example, who from Carrier Library can rent recently released DVDs seem to know about these opportunities and often miss out on enjoying them. Carrigan suggests students take advantage of local fare. "Mexi-night at the Little Grille is a great experience for anyone," he said. Josh Richardson ('02) agreed, and said, "Go see a show at The Little Grille, 'cause' it's the only place around here to catch a truly enjoyable show, and the atmosphere rocks."

Though students may think they know JMU like the backs of their hands, there probably are fun facts about Harrisonburg and campus that even after four years of college here, one might not know. Therefore, Marissa Vitolo recommended to take the JMU tour. Tour times are available by calling Sorner Hall. While on the tour, student ambassadors tell much of JMU's history — and are full of knowledge about where you've opted to obtain your education and great random trivia if ever on "Jeopardy." Thomas said to eat at each on-campus dining location again at least once before graduation, since many haven't eaten there since the beginning of their college careers. Richardson recommended that students, "Stay with one of JMU's oldest traditions and kiss someone at the kissing rock on the Quad."

JMU
DUKES

JMU class of
2004

leave campus

Do not only leave campus to make a Wal-Mart trip or to attend an off-campus social gathering. There is so much the Shenandoah Valley has to offer that many students never experience due to lack of motivation, adventure or possibly both. For nature lovers, there are many options to explore the great outdoors without traveling too far from campus. Students can obtain maps of local hiking paths and campgrounds at the Adventure Center Resource Center at University Recreation, according to a UREC employee, junior Katie Lapp.

Senior Kevin Carrigan said he recommends visiting Blue Hole, an area located less than two hours from Harrisonburg in central West Virginia on the Birch River.

Reddish Knob, just south of Harrisonburg in Dayton, is famed for the best sunrises and even where none of the car's passengers ever have been, someone's hometown or another school where friends attend. Senior Dave Futrell said to keep all phone numbers of friends and family current so you'll always have a place to stay while on a road trip. Also, try to make the trip at least three hours from school, he said. This guarantees that you will spend some time in the vehicle, making it an actual road trip. "As long as there are [refreshments] in the car and a so-called destination, you've got yourself a road trip," he said.

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form meaningful relationships

"College is a time of self-discovery" — how many times has any student heard that? Many students said the friends one makes in college can have an impact on the kind of person he or she becomes and what he or she chooses to do with their life, both personally and professionally. "Don't keep the same roommates all the way through college," Futrell said.

Boisseau said, "If you have roommate problems, live it up and laugh through it, even when problems arise. Your roommates become your family at JMU." She added that it is important to always talk about your problems, no matter how little they are.

Many students take their time at JMU as an opportunity to establish traditions. "Every Thursday night, my friends and I go to El Charro for their specials," senior J.J. Garofalo said. "We know that's our night to get together and enjoy ourselves." Experiencing favorite college pastimes before leaving also are necessary. Melissa Inks ('03) said, "Before you graduate, do everything you know you are going to miss about going to JMU, whether it's [Buffalo Wild Wings]'s chicken wings or frequenting certain bars."

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checklist: must do!

- Take a picture with the James Madison statue
- Go all out for a theme party
- Climb the wall at UREC
- Watch a game at BW3's
- Write an article for *The Breeze*
- Go to at least one sporting event
- Sledding at ISAT
- Sing Karaoke at The Pub

shop around

For less nature and more shopping, downtown Staunton, 20 minutes south on Interstate 81, features many vendors retailing everything from homemade sweets to clothing and from handmade jewelry to antiques. The Green Valley Book Fair, which has been in operation for over 33 years, is a great place to find over 40,000 titles 60 to 90 percent off retail price, according to its Web site, www.greenvalleybookfair.com. Located just off exit 240 from I-81, it is open for two-week periods six times each year.

Boisseau recommended visiting Glen's Fair Price Store in downtown Harrisonburg at the corner of North Main and Wolfe streets because "there is no other place like it." She said it has everything from costumes and masks to photo processing and an adult section on the second floor.

The Dayton Farmer's Market, located seven minutes south of campus down South High Street, brings all the hidden treasures of the Valley together, according to senior Travis Saunders. With almost all products handmade or locally produced, shoppers can find everything from fresh meats and homemade chocolates to hand-painted household items and beef jerky made on the spot.

participate in graduation activities

Anyone can get their diploma mailed home after the end of classes, Futrell said, but college students only have one opportunity to put on the traditional mortarboard cap and long black gown to listen to an inspiring public figure and pose for pictures with their friends and family. "My friends always tell me I won't make it to my own funeral, since I'm always late for everything," he said. "I'm going to make it to graduation because I know [my family and friends have] waited a long time to see me walk."

This is a one-shot deal to celebrate the culmination of what everyone works so hard for during their time at JMU. Don't fight your parents on it, just go to graduation. Garofalo said above all to remember, "When graduating, go out with an open mind and don't forget about the school that showed you the way."

Above and beyond

UREC offers programs to involve students in environment, community

See story below

STYLE

"I think the Yogis program sounds like so much fun. It would definitely be fun to watch the sun set while we exercise."

KEMPER RUFFNER
sophomore

See story below

MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE

UREC programs help students explore outside the box

BY REBECCA DORSCHER
contributing writer

Emotions was the answer — the question was, "what does happiness look like?" The young children were asked to sculpt one another into what their perception of "happy" looks like. After this, the children gathered in a circle to begin their kickboxing exercise.

With the semester coming to a close, it can be difficult to stay focused and get motivated. University Recreation Center's Peers Reaching Others Through Motion program (PROMotion) may help motivate students to a new level of a healthy well-being.

PROMotion's mission is to "act as agents for change by exciting, motivating and empowering students to make positive and worthwhile lifestyle changes," said Jill Zagora, PROMotion's adviser.

According to Zagora, the program is a peer education group that was founded and is run by Group Fitness and Wellness Instructors. PROMotion advocates self-esteem and healthy lifestyles for kids through physical and educational activities. PROMotion also presents empowering and inspiring programs to people of all ages.

Zagora said the program is entirely run by students, from the initial planning to the implementation of those plans.

Senior Kim Winn, copresident of PROMotion, explained that "the typical program begins with an interactive educational activity in order to spark the participants' interest and help them learn and appreciate more about themselves and others." Afterwards, participants are encouraged to join in a physical activity such as kickboxing, circuit training or yoga.

Junior Alissa Wunder, a current member

“It's really neat to hear what the students have to say and see how they respond to us.”

—Alissa Wunder
junior

and next year's president of PROMotion, said programs generally run for about an hour and combine physical and educational components.

The PROMotion program appeals to all age groups, from elementary kids to college students to elderly adults, according to Wunder. For example, PROMotion recently hosted a program with health science and gerontology majors and with adults in the Adult Human Development Program.

"We mainly do yoga with the elderly adults, but we also do some low-impact aerobics and floor exercises," Wunder said.

PROMotion focuses on four main educational elements — personal growth, self-esteem, dealing with emotions and healthy relationships, according to Zagora.

"It's really neat to hear what the students have to say and see how they respond to us. I think ... they're a lot more willing to open up and give feedback," Wunder said.

Winn says, "PROMotion is a great program and has been an awesome experience for us all."

For more information on the program, contact PROMotion at jmiprom@hotmail.com.

BY ERIN LEE
staff writer

Some people take bubble baths or sip wine in front of the fire to relax. Others enjoy the flexibility, strength and peace of mind that are the focus of the University Recreation Center-sponsored program, "Yogis Take a Hike," set to take place this afternoon.

"The best part is that it introduces people to two parts of UREC that they are not used to," said Eric Deschamps, the graduate assistant for Adventure Programs at UREC. "[Yogis] is a change of scenery and is great for the body and mind."

Yogis participants will be taken to Hidden Rocks, about a half-hour drive away. Once there, they will hike to the top of the rocks where there is a great view of the Shenandoah Valley, according to Deschamps. Following the hike, a yoga session will be conducted for about 45 minutes by a trained yoga instructor as the sun sets. Afterwards, participants will hike about 30 minutes back down to the parking area.

"I think the Yogis program sounds like so much fun," sophomore Kemper Ruffner said. "It would definitely be fun to watch the sun set while we exercise."

The program is free and will consist of eight people, who signed up for the hike at the program registration desk in UREC.

A group fitness instructor, as well as an adventure program staffer, also will accompany the participants, according to Zagora.

UREC offers the Yogis program once a semester, and this is the third time the program has been hosted. Zagora said that she hopes UREC will do the Yogis program more than once in the fall, weather permitting.

"Our original idea was that people who hiked would benefit from the yoga, and peo-

ple who did yoga would benefit from the hiking," Zagora said. "We wanted to try something new and cross over the participants."

Another benefit of the program is that participants will gain knowledge of the Hidden Rocks area and can return there on their own time, according to Zagora.

"You can also get to know the people [participating in the program] because it is such an intimate setting," Zagora said.

Yogis is a level one to level two hike and yoga session, which means that even beginners could participate, according to Zagora.

The Adventure and Group Fitness and Wellness programs also are putting on a "Destination Wellness" April 17-18 at Seneca Rocks in West Virginia. The program starts at 9 a.m. on April 17 and is overnight. Students will return around 1 p.m. April 18, according to Zagora. A bus will take the eight participants and four instructors to Seneca Rocks. "Destination Wellness" is similar to Yogis, but more in-depth, according to Deschamps.

"Throughout the day, we'll have a hike, yoga, massage therapy, a session on how to cook in the outdoors and team sports such as ultimate Frisbee; it is still in the planning stages though," Zagora said.

Sign-ups are at the program registration desk in UREC. The program includes a \$35 fee, which covers the campsite cost and food for the weekend, according to Zagora.

Deschamps says taking advantage of the surrounding area is the most important concept to keep in mind when choosing where to invest time and money.

"We live in one of the most beautiful regions in the country and most people just sit around Harrisonburg and don't take advantage of it," said Deschamps.

Braving the storm



CHRISTOPHER LABZDA/junior photographer

"Monsoon," a student-written play about a deceased drug addict's combat against dependence, began last night at Theatre II and will run through April 11 at 8 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$3 at the door. Sophomore Richard Mooney (above) played both Dennis and Copernicus in the play.

Romantic hunger to be satisfied by pasta meal

Italian food gets amore flowing

BY LAUREN WALLACE
contributing writer

The thought of candlelit dinner shared with that special someone often conjures up images of a couple nestled over dimly lit plates of food — usually pasta.

Although the pasta at D-hall is great, there are few things that can make a homemade meal even better. With a little time, effort and a trip to the grocery store, anyone can create these decadent variations of fettucine alfredo and garlic bread.

Garlic Bread

Prep time: 5 minutes; Cook time: 15 minutes

1 loaf of Italian or French bread one-half tsp of salt
5 tbsp of melted butter one-third cup of fresh parsley
1 tsp of garlic powder pepper

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Mix the melted butter, garlic powder, salt and fresh parsley together with a dash of pepper. Cut the loaf of bread lengthwise and evenly drizzle the butter mixture over the inside of the bread. Put the two halves of the bread back together and put the loaf on a baking pan. Leave the bread in the oven for 10 to 15 minutes.

Artichoke Fettucine Alfredo

Prep time: 10 minutes; Cook time: 20 minutes

1 stick of butter (8 tbsp) 1 cup of fresh parsley
5 to 7 cloves of garlic 1 cup of half n' half
one-third of an onion 15 oz box of fettucine
4 unseasoned canned artichoke hearts salt
1 and a half cups of shredded parmesan cheese pepper
garlic powder

Chop the garlic cloves, canned artichoke hearts and the onion into pieces and put them in a high-sided pan or pot, along with a tablespoon of butter on medium-low heat. Add one lemon slice, along with a dash of salt. Occasionally stir the ingredients so they don't burn. When the onions are translucent, remove the lemon slice and add the half-and-half. Cut the rest of the butter into pieces and add it slowly to the half-and-half mixture over five minutes. Make sure to continuously stir the mixture with a whisk. Once all the butter has been added, turn the heat up to medium and mix in the parmesan cheese. Cut up the fresh parsley and add it along with salt, pepper and garlic powder to taste. When the parmesan is completely integrated into the half-and-half, add the cooked fettucine.

KEVAN MACIVERU/graphics editor



Italians seem to have brought romantic dining to its highest form when they brought the act of cooking pasta into the spotlight. Alfredo's Restaurant of Rome in Italy is credited with inventing fettucine alfredo in 1914, according to the Alfredo's Restaurant of Rome Web site, www.alfredos.com/roma. Although this pasta is a filling and delicious treat all on its own, garlic bread completes the meal. *Buona fortuna!*

Authors inspire magic, realism with style

Magical realism is one of those writing styles (like stream-of-consciousness) that comes across as being unbelievably ridiculous — at least, until the reader finds him or herself engrossed in a particular text. Perhaps another name for such a style would be the “everything-but-the-kitchen-sink” style because when you get down to it, it’s a technique in which anything goes, in which all possibilities exist for imagination.

The name itself seems contradictory — “magic” and “realism” don’t mesh in the same way that “autobiographical” and “fiction” don’t. One would think that a novel would have to choose between being magical or realistic — a middle ground seems impossible. Yet, this is the genius of such a writing style — that in most cases it comes across as being brilliantly believable.

Your standard magical realist novel is one rooted in the real world, yet tinged with the kind of mystery and magic normally reserved for fantasy novels. In the pages of such books, ghosts and devils can walk the earth, people can rise from the dead and the most unexpected events can become commonplace. As I said earlier, anything goes in magical realism novels.

Case in point — an excerpt from “One Hundred Years of Solitude” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, perhaps the preeminent writer (and preeminent novel) of magical realism. A murder just has taken place behind a closed door. That’s relatively normal, you’d say to yourself, no surprises there — but read Garcia Marquez’s following sentence:

“A trickle of blood came out under the door, crossed the



living room, went out into the street, continued on in a straight line across the uneven terraces, went down steps and climbed curbs, passed along the Street of Turks, turned a corner to the right and another to the left, made a right angle at the Buendia house ... and went through the pantry and came out in the kitchen, where

Ursula (the victim’s mother) was getting ready to crack thirty-six eggs to make bread.”

That, right there, is a perfect example of magical realism, and it doesn’t end there. The victim’s corpse continues to exude a horrible stench regardless of the myriad of ways through which the family tries to inter it. While the

plotline isn’t believable on a literal level, our suspension of disbelief still is intact by the time the line of blood makes its way into the kitchen (this probably is more evident for those who have read the novel entirely, but bear with me, please). Readers don’t have the time to stop and figure out the logistics of such an episode because the writing itself carries us along continually to even more extravagant events, each of which we continue to swallow.

Pardon the pun, but the effect is nothing short of magical. What kind of book column would this be without a plug for other essential magical realists aside from Mr. Marquez? Salman Rushdie — perhaps my favorite writer — who deals heavily in magical realism, as does the writer Mario Vargas Llosa.

You’d be hard pressed to find many American magical realist texts; most critics see magical realism as a cultural response to colonialism. At times, such works do tend to feed off of a kind of cultural mystery for those readers unfamiliar with either a novel’s or magical realism novel’s respective settings that might not agree with some cultural critics. Others may think of these novels as fluff, bedtime stories for those of us who’ve transcended the pages of Dr. Seuss.

I disagree with the above-mentioned viewpoint, but you might not. Here’s the catch — the only way you’re going to find out which way you lean is to pick up a copy of Garcia Marquez’s “Autumn of the Patriarch” or Rushdie’s “The Satanic Verses.” Both texts are good places to start.



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