

THE BREEZE

Vol. 82, Issue 44

Thursday, March 24, 2005

Under-funding hurts JMU

By Rachana Dixit
senior writer

Substantial increase in total enrollment at JMU in recent years, along with a lack of funds could create more problems in the future for the university's faculty and administration.

The Office of Institutional Research distributed a study this year showing the continuing student history between 1992 and 2003. Between these years, total enrollment increased from 11,343 persons to 16,203 persons. Undergraduate degree-seeking enrollment by itself grew 50 percent, from 9,787 persons to 14,685 persons.

Frank Doherty, director of the Office of Institutional Research, said a lack of funds provided by the state has led to a shortage of faculty and an increase in programs with special admissions criteria.

Doherty said, "We're not where we'd like to be with funding."

Doherty also said JMU was brought to the attention of the Virginia General Assembly as one of the most under-funded institutions in the state. Prior to 1992, special admissions criteria existed for majors in music, art, theatre, dance, nursing and social work. By fall 2003, 15 additional majors required special admissions criteria. These majors included the School of Media Arts and Design, eight Bachelor's of Business Administration majors in the College of Business, communications studies, computer science, political science, public administration, international affairs and psychology.

Douglas Brown, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the under-funding of JMU has been a chronic problem. The combination of this plus the increased total enrollment has created a greater need for faculty, but the goals have not been attained.

"Our analysis indicates that we're about 100 faculty [members] short of where we should be," Brown said. The number of full-time faculty at JMU is more than 800 persons.

Other departments on campus are also concerned with the issue of a faculty shortage. The Faculty Senate, which is a part of the university government, deals with issues such as budget considerations in Richmond and various academic policies. English professor Cynthia Gilliatt, a member of the Faculty Concerns Committee in the Faculty Senate, said the committee addresses issues

see STUDY page 3

Alcohol abuse alarming



AMY PATERSON/photo editor

JMU students consume more drinks than the national average

By James Irwin and
Cara Pugliese
senior writer and
contributing writer

Students and faculty at JMU agree that there is an abundance of alcohol consumption on campus and are concerned by the consequences of excessive drinking.

The Journal of the American Medical Association defines binge drinking as consuming five or more drinks in a row on a single occasion for males and four or more drinks in a row on a single occasion for females.

David Onestak, the student counseling director at JMU, is concerned by research that shows JMU students tend to drink more than the national average.

"The JMU population consumes more drinks per week than the national reference group, 8.5 versus 6.1," Onestak said. "This suggests to me that misuse of alcohol is indeed a very serious problem at JMU."

Michael Way, the director of the Office of Judicial Affairs, agrees that drinking is a problem.

"Rarely do we hear of violence, sexual assault or property destruction where alcohol wasn't the root cause," Way said. Way also noted that drinking prevents students from getting the full college experience.

"Alcohol and drug abuse detract from the kind of clean, safe, quiet environment that promotes the growth and development of students," Way said.

Like Way, senior Grant Schafer, the president of the men's group 1 in 4, says drinking is a problem that detracts from students' ability to enjoy college. Schafer says that he is "deeply concerned" by binge drinking on campus.

"The fact that some of my peers would solely choose binge drinking as a way to feel connected to others, bypassing the many clubs, organizations and athletic opportunities to make friends and socialize saddens me," Schafer said.

Junior Class President Britt Timmerman questions the motives of students who routinely drink to excess.

"It may be that the students are rebelling against their parents and trying to 'live it up' while they are here," she said. "Whatever the reason, the party scene is now considered part of the college experience."

But senior psychology and kinesiology double major Audrey Koehler said some students view classes as a hurdle to overcome before a weekend of partying. She said even responsible drinking can be a problem if it's done for the wrong reasons.

"I think it's a common perception because of the way students get through class during the week in order to party on the weekends," Koehler said. "I think it becomes a problem when students don't have their priorities straight and are dependent on alcohol to make them happy, popular or confident."

Athletic Center already breaking records

By Colleen Schorn
senior writer

The Robert and Frances Plecker Athletic Performance Center, Harrison Hall and the new physics and chemistry building will open in time for use in the fall.

The Athletic Performance Center received the largest amount of donations ever made to a JMU project.

The center is named for the Plecker family, who were lead

donors, according to spokesman Andy Perrine of university communications and marketing.

Over \$7 million was given for the building, including two of the largest single gifts in JMU history, by Charles E. Estes of Richmond and the Pleckers of Harrisonburg.

The center is 48,000 square feet and will provide an academic center for varsity athletes, including a computer lab and tutoring space. There will also be a sports medicine

complex, strength training area, football locker room and coaches' offices.

On the other side of campus, Steven Whisnant, head of the physics department said the new physics and chemistry building should be completed and turned over to the departments around April 1.

The building will mainly occupy labs, but there is some classroom space. Larger classes will still be held in CISAT and HHS, and seminars will

be held in the College Center, according to Whisnant.

"The new building provides some much needed space," Whisnant said. He said although the physics department will be receiving more room in the new building, all the faculty offices will be filled and the labs will all be used.

Whisnant said faculty from the departments will move labs and offices to the new building so they will be

ready for classes by the time the fall semester begins.

Harrison Hall is scheduled to be finished in time for classes to begin in the fall. It will house SMAD, SCOM, the Institute of Technical and Scientific Communication, the University Writing Program and offices of the College of Arts and Letters. The building will include classrooms, faculty offices, a television studio and control room.

ready for classes by the time the fall semester begins.

Initiative seeks diverse student body

By Jill Yaworski
contributing writer

"Conversations About Diversity" was developed this past fall to spread understanding about JMU's diversity initiative.

Special assistant to JMU's President Rose, Daniel Wubah facilitated the program to students Tuesday night in Eagle Hall.

Wubah began the program by explaining the diversity initiative at JMU and how it pertains to the student population.

"Two years ago there were 3,200 incoming freshmen, and only 65 of them were African-American," Wubah said. "Out of those 65 African-Americans, only 25 weren't athletes."

According to Wubah, these statistics instantly triggered some alarms. Rose put together commissions to look at diversity in different aspects of the university.

The commission members then had four months to come up with recommendations on how to expand the number of minorities attending JMU.

"Students come to JMU for four years to learn, and according to the mission, be enlightened," Wubah said. "Then they leave and head for different cities. But is JMU an accurate reflection of those cities? Every student will have to interact with many people whom don't look or don't act like them, but how will they effectively do that if there is no diversity at JMU?"

As a result of the diversity initiative, JMU saw an increase in the number of minorities applying to JMU this past year. For example, the Office of Admissions saw an increase of 28 percent in the number of African-Americans that applied.

Wubah believes one large problem of why minorities do not attend JMU

is socio-economic status. According to Wubah, after looking at FAFSA forms, a large portion of the minorities accepted to JMU could not afford to come.

"We have to lower the financial barrier to bring students who are qualified," Wubah said. "Diversity doesn't mean lowering our standards, but just helping fully qualified students get here."

Freshman Brittany Horak said she was amazed at how much Wubah and his colleagues are doing to promote the diversity initiative throughout campus. Horak said, "Conversations About Diversity" enabled her to open her eyes to the variety of diversity there is in the world, and how little there is at JMU.

"It was neat the way Dr. Wubah conducted it as a conversation where everyone felt really comfortable talking honestly and being able to ask questions," Horak said.

dancing for a healthier life



Sigma Sigma Sigma sponsored their fourth annual "Eating Disorder Awareness Week." Here, Madison Dance performs as part of the week's events.

AMY PATERSON/
photo editor

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DUKE DAYS Events Calendar

March 24, 2005

Attention Juniors, 2006 Senior Class Challenge Steering Committee applications are now available and due Wednesday, March 30 by 5 p.m. For information and applications, visit <http://www.jmu.edu/seniorchallenge> or contact Sheila Williams Smith at will2ss or Kristin Naylor at naylorkj.

Break the silence against sexual assault and domestic violence with these annual activities:

Tenth Annual Take Back the Night: Tuesday, March 29 from 5 to 10 p.m. on the commons. The event will feature speakers, music groups and a march and is sponsored by the Women's Resource Center and the Center for Multicultural/International Student Services.

The Clothesline Project will take place Wednesday, March 30 to Thursday, March 31 from 12 to 8 p.m. in Transitions. There will be a visual display of shirts depicting experiences with rape and assault and is sponsored by First Year Involvement.

The 2nd annual SafeRides "Rock Off" will be tonight at 11 p.m. in the lower level of Festival. The event is free and door prizes will be given out throughout the night. If you have questions contact Crystal DeWeese at deweessa or Melissa Laughner at laughnml.

Want to learn salsa and merengue? Join the Latino Student Alliance for dancing, food and fun! This Saturday, March 26 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in PC Ballroom. Cost is \$3 with JAC and \$5 without. For more information, contact Brandi Tinsley at tinslebl.

Submit your Duke Days of 50 words or less to breezenews@hotmail.com

POLICE LOG

BY SHARON SCHIFF/asst. news editor

Petty Larceny/Property Damage

A JMU student reported a broken driver-side window on a vehicle in R-5 Lot between March 17 at 6 a.m. and March 18 at 9:45 a.m. It was reported that a silver necklace was missing, along with a book bag containing miscellaneous items.

Property Damage

A JMU student reported a windshield had been broken on a vehicle in the C-2 Lot on March 20 between 2 a.m. and 12 p.m.

A JMU employee reported writings on the walls and inside the stall door of the first floor men's room in Anthony-Seeger Hall between March 18 at 10:30 p.m. and March 21 at 12:10 a.m.

Total number of tickets since Aug. 19: **19,258**

Total number of drunk in public since Aug. 19: **65**

MISSION

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.

Contact Us

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

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BREAK THE SILENCE against sexual assault and domestic violence with these annual activities:

Tenth Annual Take Back the Night: - Tuesday, March 29, 2005.
 - 5-10 p.m. on the Commons
 - features speakers, music groups, and a march
 (sponsored by the Women's Resource Center and the Center for Multicultural/International Student Services)

The Clothesline Project: - Wednesday, March 30-Thursday, March 31, 2005
 - from noon to 8 p.m. in Transitions
 - visual display of shirts depicting experiences with rape and assault
 (sponsored by FYI)

Bruce Campbell

come here an actor tell of his experiences in the film industry

March 30, 2005
8:00pm
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Bruce Campbell has appeared in Spiderman, Army of Darkness, The Majestic, and many others.



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'Kristin's Story' illustrates effects of girl's depression

BY ELISABETH ROUNDY
contributing writer

A mother's story of her daughter's struggle with the depression and rape that ultimately led to her daughter's suicide JMU students were told Monday evening.

"Rape is a crime of uniquely intimate cruelty," Andrea Fuller Cooper said.

Cooper told the story of her daughter Kristin, who would be turning 30 on March 31 if she were still alive.

Cooper has spoken to over 80,000 college students across the country in the past seven years, emphasizing awareness of rape and depression as well as its repercussions. Cooper said it was important to look for signs of depression in order to prevent future problems and to have open communication with loved ones when confronting such heavy issues.

Cooper said Kristin appeared to be a typical teen, overcoming the rocky middle school years and going on to love high school. She became involved with music, theater, swimming and life-guarding from ages 16 to 20. Kristin attended Baker Uni-

versity in Kansas and joined the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and, within a few weeks, Kristin had a boyfriend.

After about one year of dating, Kristin's boyfriend broke up with her. On New Year's Eve 1995, Cooper and her husband returned home to see Kristin's car at the house. Entering their home, Cooper heard Alanis Morissette blaring. First believing that Kristin had passed out from alcohol poisoning, Cooper quickly discovered that Kristin had shot herself.

Kristin's parents later learned from her journal that the breakup between Kristin and her first love was because Kristin had finally found the courage to tell her boyfriend that a fellow lifeguard had raped her. Her boyfriend's response was to end his relationship with Kristin.

"I think it's amazing that she can tell this story about her daughter," sophomore Amanda Graham said.

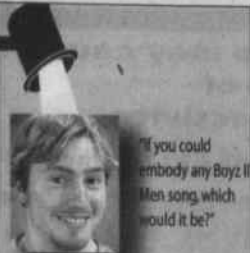
Junior Adrian White said, "A lot of people aren't aware that [rape] happens on a daily basis and with people that you know."

The event was sponsored by the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils and Delta Delta Delta sorority.

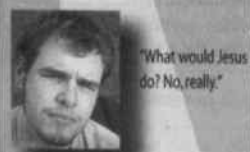


ISABEL PERRY/contributing photographer

Andrea Fuller Cooper speaks in the College Center Ballroom, telling her daughter's story of rape and subsequent suicide.



Rian Kuntz
SMAD/theatre & dance
senior



Daniel Crabtree
theatre
sophomore

EVAN DYSON/contributing photographer
CAMPUS SPOTLIGHT

If you could come up with one spotlight question, what would it be and why?



Ben Chambers
ISAT
junior



Brynn Dorsey
theatre/spanish
sophomore

Visitors speak against U.S. in Iraq

BY JENNIFER DROGUS
contributing writer

In observance of the two years since war was declared in Iraq, a discussion regarding the removal of troops was held in the Integrated Science and Technology building Tuesday evening.

"We have been largely isolated from hearing about many of the events going on right now in Iraq," said Erik Leaver, a foreign policy analyst with the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C. who spoke during "Two Years of War, Where Are We Now? The Case for a U.S. Military Withdrawal and an End to Occupation."

Larry Syverson, a father with children in the military, and Leaver traveled to JMU in order to educate students about both the personal toll the war in Iraq has taken on their lives as well as talk about possible strategies for removal of troops.

Syverson has two sons who have served in Iraq and is an active

member of the Military Families Speak Out organization.

Syverson's son, Brice, battled Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and depression, became sensitive to noise and anxious in large crowds. However, Syverson said, his son cannot get out of the Army and must go back over to Iraq.

"He is in no shape to be given a gun and sent back over there," Syverson said. "I understand that hardship is part of the job [of a soldier]. There just has to be compelling and honest reasons to impose such hardships."

Leaver spoke about how difficult it is to get an informed debate because of the lack of accurate information that has actually been divulged about the war. He proposed several peaceful solutions for the removal of American troops in Iraq, including decreasing the population of troops in the Middle East, making a definite declaration that the United States has no intention to maintain long-term incumbency in Iraq, do more to restore services to the people of Iraq and put

restrictions on how much money Congress is spending on the war.

"We need to represent an ambitious new direction for the Iraqi people ... we need to have more chances for educational forums such as this one," Leaver said.

The event was put together by the student-run group Progress, a multi-issue social justice organization involved in the resistance to the Iraq war.

"The purpose of having these two gentlemen speak here tonight is to inform students that the aims of the war [in Iraq] are not effective, and that there are cultural aspects of the war that are not being revealed," junior Progress member Katie Clark said.

Approximately 50 students attended the two speeches and participated in the following discussion session.

"I left this discussion with a new respect for the families of soldiers in Iraq," senior Kiley McEvoy said. "It is difficult to see a reason for subjecting their children to unnecessary peril."

STUDY: Research shows lack of diversity

STUDY, from page 1

such as how big the university should be.

"We're concerned about having enough sections for our classes for our majors and other students," Gilliatt said.

Gilliatt said in recent years, the English Department has been replacing people instead of adding new positions.

Despite cuts in funding, tax increases passed by the Virginia General Assembly last year have helped fund the university more. Doherty also noted that despite the fact the student body has substantially increased, graduation rates have remained steady.

Some other trends the Continuing Student History study showed gender diversity has decreased among undergraduates, with female enrollment increasing almost twice as much as male enrollment. While racial and ethnic diversity decreased in the undergraduate enrollment, it increased in graduate student enrollment from eight to 12 percent.

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PASSPORT EVENT

contact: Ellen Kokinda kokindeb@jmu.edu

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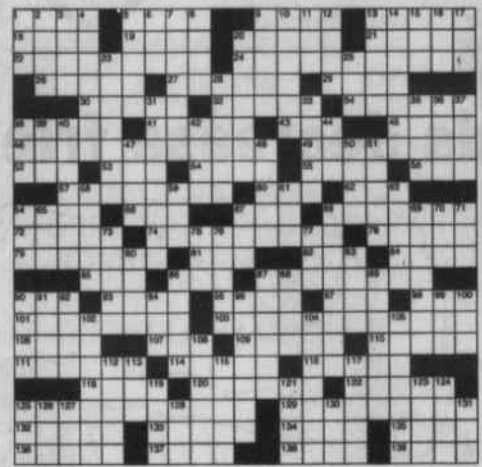


http://upb.jmu.edu

SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Clean the decks
- 5 "Portnoy's Complaint" author
- 9 "Woe is me!"
- 13 Strength
- 18 - Krishna
- 19 Neutral tone
- 20 Manifest
- 21 Pointless
- 22 What the Three Stooges drank
- 24 What Yo-Yo Ma drank
- 26 - pole
- 27 "American Pie" singer
- 29 Overshoe
- 30 Range rope
- 32 Synthetic fiber
- 34 Brahman or lama
- 38 Broadway backer
- 41 Vulgar
- 43 He may woo ewe
- 45 Concerning
- 46 What Sasquatch drank
- 49 What Queen Victoria drank
- 52 Oklahoma city
- 53 Bull in a china shop
- 54 Exploit
- 55 Crucifix
- 56 "Howards -" ('92 film)
- 57 Had a hunch
- 60 Nonclerical
- 62 Assumed name?
- 64 German chemist Otto
- 66 Hound or hamster
- 67 Forbid
- 68 Outtake
- 72 On the ball
- 74 What F. Lee Bailey drank
- 78 Billow
- 79 Longed for
- 81 Address abbr.
- 82 Exist
- 84 Tragic fate
- 85 What's between Serena and Martina
- 86 Bat wood
- 87 - clover
- 90 Paddle
- 93 Siren
- 95 Steel support
- 97 Myriads of moons
- 98 - Jima
- 101 What Isaac Newton drank
- 103 What Martha Stewart drank
- 106 Reside
- 107 Eyebrow shape
- 109 The sky, at times?
- 110 Beginning



- 111 Bright inventor?
- 114 Make Fido fetch
- 116 Starts a lawn
- 118 Banyan or baobab
- 120 Refer (to)
- 122 - point
- 125 What Lech Walesa drank
- 129 What Gregor Mendel drank
- 132 Saying
- 133 Take the reins
- 134 Pennsylvania port
- 135 Atty.-to-be's ordeal
- 136 Steven of "Wings"
- 137 Guam, for one: abbr.
- 138 Horned vipers
- 139 Actress Veronica

DOWN

- 1 "Quiet!"
- 2 Stick around
- 3 Singer Guthrie
- 4 '60s phenomenon
- 5 French city
- 6 "Fall back" mo.
- 7 Aftershocks
- 8 Former Cong. group
- 9 For the birds
- 10 Loewe's lyricist
- 11 - deco
- 12 Pencil piece
- 13 Sun screen
- 14 First
- 15 Gangster's gun
- 16 TV's "Step Beyond"
- 17 Singer Chris
- 20 Supervise
- 23 Property professional
- 25 "Alley -"
- 28 Endured
- 31 Paul of "A Man for All Seasons"
- 33 Storch or King
- 35 Punta del -
- 36 Actress Anna
- 37 Warty one
- 38 Flock o' docs
- 39 Wordless greeting
- 40 Grinds
- 42 -de-camp
- 44 Herd word
- 47 Interstate exit
- 48 Dwight's competitor
- 50 Cry of distress
- 51 "Later, Luis!"
- 58 Remove a brooch
- 59 Sault - Marie, MI
- 61 Pangolin's morsel
- 63 Dutch export
- 64 Possessed
- 65 Citrus cooler
- 67 Deli choice
- 68 Kind of clasp
- 69 Makes money
- 70 - trip
- 71 Sleep stage
- 73 Roman fountain
- 75 Helium or hydrogen
- 76 Plant pest
- 77 - Claire, WI
- 80 "L' -, c'est moi"
- 83 Wells creatures
- 86 In pieces
- 87 Feast's alternative
- 88 City near Provo
- 89 Produced a cryptogram
- 90 Eye amorously
- 91 Purched
- 92 Sitarist Shankar
- 94 "Cry - River" ('55 song)
- 96 "El Libertador"
- 99 Elfin
- 100 - bran

- 102 Trace
- 104 Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy
- 105 Teach
- 108 Kilauaea, for one
- 112 Court cry
- 113 Teachers' org.
- 115 "Doe, -, a female"
- 117 Rapiers
- 119 Formerly, formerly
- 121 Perlman of "Cheers"
- 123 "- Heartache" ('78 hit)
- 124 Shipbuilding wood
- 125 Shorten a slat
- 126 Horatian creation
- 127 Research site
- 128 Ideologue's suffix
- 130 Tear
- 131 Demolished dessert

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HOUSE EDITORIAL

iPods decrease friendly atmosphere around campus



JMU is generally known as a friendly campus. As prospective students traverse the grounds, they no doubt take notice of the community atmosphere. However, the friendliness is now on the decline due to an increased use of iPods.

While the iPod rivals the wolverine in its power per pound, the fact that the general population has grafted the wallet-sized jukebox to their beings has made the opportunity for spontaneous conversation nearly non-existent.

Riding on the bus used to be a time to meet new people and exchange casual remarks on subjects ranging from the D-hall menu to whether you actually did just see a guy on a unicycle peddle by. Now, the ever-present white earphones end conversations before they start.

Occasionally, you come across that certain someone who will be courteous enough to remove one of the earphones to talk. But the question that arises is if that technologically chivalrous individual is paying true attention to your concern of whether or not "The Apprentice" will return for another season, or is tuning you out in favor of Ludacris blasting in the other ear.

iPods also create a threat to safety, beyond simply alienating strangers. The issue of driving and talking on cell phones is continuously being examined by government officials, but the safety of driving with an iPod has

yet to be questioned; but there really is no distinction between the two. Both provide distractions for the driver, perhaps the iPod even more so. The option of hooking up an iPod to the car's stereo system is there, although you still need to look at the iPod to select songs, and while it is illegal to drive with headphones on, many can be seen favoring the iPod to their tape deck or CD player.

As if cell phones and iPods were not enough of a diversion separately, it is not uncommon to see students using both. Sure, we were given two ears and the intelligence to multitask, but there is something to be said for giving your brain a rest and choosing one or the other.

While at this point these issues are somewhat trivial and only borderline annoying, what does the future hold? As the iPod gets smaller and smaller, it is more and more likely that Americans will never leave home without one. Though this does kill the boredom associated with walking from one place to another and drowns out supermarket muzak, we still live in a society with some basis in common courtesy and that values human interaction.

Just as with the invention of the cell phone, we need to create an accepted code of conduct with the iPod. It is important to know when it is appropriate, and when you should take it off to actually pay attention to the eulogy.

FAREWELL FROM THE EDITOR

Editor shares secrets

ALISON FARGO
editor in chief

I am going to let you in on a little secret. Despite how many names we misspelled, how many facts we got wrong and how many big stories we missed in the past year, we did at least try to do things right. And that is the honest truth.

Seeing as how this is my last issue as editor in chief, I feel it's an appropriate time to let you in on the behind-the-scenes of *The Breeze*. Shocking, I know, that the newspaper doesn't just magically appear in the stacks next to your classroom every Monday and Thursday — there actually is work that is done to write it, edit it, design it, fill it, sell it, print it, and distribute it.

Editors in chief live lives that are far from average. I am probably the only student at JMU who was threatened to be sued, personally, more times than I can count — some people having solid reasoning and some who didn't stand a chance. It's one of those things that people never really tell you how to deal with, they just say, "Never, ever apologize." I never really got that, but at least I've made it this far without having to enter a courtroom. I'll celebrate that victory a year from now. (That one year thing is very important, and if you don't understand why, look it up in the media law book that I'm sure all of you keep on your nightstands.)

I don't think people realize how many e-mails editors get a day. When I open my *breezeditor* account, I have anywhere from 14 to 42 e-mails — and I promise they are not all love letters of af-

fection. When I was the assistant style editor two years ago, I received about five to 10 e-mails a day. Sometimes I wonder how many letters to the editor I'd get if e-mail was never invented.

Breeze editors are in the office seven days a week. On Wednesdays and Sundays, we have been known to stay here for more than 15 hours. It is a huge responsibility to find the news, write about the news, and package it all together — and then fight the crowds that criticize the "liberal media" the next day. Yes, we know what you think of us, but the press isn't going anywhere and there's nothing you can do about it.

I've hired people. I've fired people. I've made people laugh and I've probably made people cry. People have made me cry too, by the way, I've just sulked and yelled to my poor roomies or my comforting boyfriend. Thanks to everyone whose open ears have helped me get through four exciting and challenging years at *The Breeze*.

I have one last request to all my readers as I make my way off the masthead. Please give the new staff room to grow. Working on an award-winning college newspaper isn't easy, and chances are they'll make mistakes, just as I did. They'll probably misspell a few names and get a few facts incorrect, but they're trying hard to do things right.

Best of luck to everybody in the year to come. And whoever sent me that anonymous pat a few months ago, thank you for being my source of inspiration during so many stressful moments. Farewell!

Alison Fargo is a senior SMAD major who is a bit nervous about being an underdog again.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Steroid hearings correct

Travis Clark's March 21 column demonstrates some common misunderstandings about the Congressional hearings regarding steroids in major league baseball.

First, the government gave baseball an anti-trust exemption which allowed it to become a major business enterprise. Baseball's weak policies enabled the illegal use of steroids to flourish in violation of not only the principles of fair play, but also federal law. This is not lost on the House Committee for Government Reform, which is why they — not baseball's powers that be, who fought the action — moved to hold the steroid hearings.

Regardless of Congress's legitimate authority over baseball, many people argue that their tax dollars and the time of their elected representatives would be better spent on something else — like bringing back our soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan, preferably in a manner that appeases liberals and conservatives alike. However, these are not mutually exclusive goals.

In fact, working in accord on an issue that lends itself to consensus might be one of the best steps Congress can take toward unifying a nation fractured along party lines. Sports have always been a place where political and ideological differences can be abandoned in favor of healthy competition on an even playing field. If Congress finds that spirit in the process of restoring it to baseball, then we might all be better off for the distraction.

John Goshorn
senior, SMAD

House editorial misses real reasons

I write today to express my vehement disagreement with the house editorial's opinion on the snubbing of Shinn Fein on last week on St. Patrick's Day. Shinn Fein — the political wing of the IRA — was not invited to meet with the administration last week due to the IRA's handling of the murder of Robert McCartney and their connection with a Christmas bank robbery in Northern Ireland (NI). The house editorial believes that this move will make the peace process in NI take a "step backward," because their leaders will not be in Washington to push for peace. On the contrary, Washington's

decision was right, because at this stage, Shinn Fein must be publicly affronted for effectively derailing the peace process that was so close to being resolved last fall — until their refusal to decommission the last weapons of the IRA and their clear involvement, according to both the Irish and the British government, the bank robbery. Furthermore, the house editorial's stance that the invitation of McCartney's family members to the White House instead of Gerry Adams, leader of Shinn Fein and reported leader of the IRA, is a sign to NI that they are not seriously interested in reaching peace is especially ignorant. McCartney's sisters have led in the weeks following the murders a new wave of anti-violence and anti-sectarian hate in their public pressure on the Irish Republican leadership to cooperate in the murder investigation. This "new wave" has manifested itself in Catholic Republican calls for the IRA to decommission and disband, thus removing the last road block to peace. Thus, the White House invitation to the McCartney sisters sends a clear and critical message to the Shinn Fein and the IRA to shape up or get out because the people want peace, and your actions are currently impeding it.

Colin Reynolds
sophomore, international affairs

Schiavo case about the value of life

I want to thank Matt Curtin in his letter "Schiavo case not about utilitarianism" in the March 3 edition for mentioning the medical terminology which has caused Terri Schiavo's condition to be questioned. There is confusion over her physical state. Terri Schiavo would readily be diagnosed by medical personnel as being in a minimally conscious state. This is very different than a persistent vegetative state. Unfortunately, attempts to have a new diagnosis have been denied due to the desire for an end to this ordeal. Michael Schiavo and many others have chosen to overlook her numerous vital signs when speaking of death with dignity, as mentioned by Patrick Egan in his letter "Keeping Schiavo alive not the best option" in the March 3 issue. In reality, Schiavo's death would be painful and could take up to 14 days, while her body fights to remain alive, in much the same way as yours and mine would. I agree that decisions such as these are the responsibility of legal guardians and are sobering for those who make them. I still contend, however, that Michael Schiavo's decision to end his wife's life bares far

less concern for her than for the convenience of the situation. It would seem to me that someone with a grave concern for his wife's sake would never choose to subject her to a slow and painful death. Rather, true appreciation would err on the side of preserving life. Again, the fundamental idea is that life, in itself, is not enough. Conditional life, or equality of life, as Patrick Egan noted, is a dangerous concept for our society to swallow. I, for one, oppose it.

Stephanie Naus
junior, political science

Number of protestors significant

As an alumnus and frequent reader of *The Breeze* online, I have a comment about the story appearing in the March 21 issue by Megan Neal. My question is why did you not note the number of attendees at the protest? Was it large or small? My concern is that if the number had been in the hundreds or thousands, then that number would have been listed, but if the event was sparsely attended, then you would show bias by selectively leaving the attendance out of the story. I am also a veteran and these stories are of interest to me. As opposition to the operation in Iraq grows or wanes, I like to be kept aware and your paper has a finger on the pulse of my alma mater. Please keep up the good work, but report all of the facts in the future. Thanks.

Glen Brizendine
Alumnus ('88)

Editorial policies

Responses to all articles and opinions published in *The Breeze* are welcome and encouraged. Letters should be no longer than 250 words, must include a phone number for verification and can be e-mailed to breezepinion@hotmail.com or mailed to MSC 6805 G1, Anthony-Seeger Hall, Harrisonburg, VA 22807. *The Breeze* reserves the right to edit all submissions for length or grammatical style.

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*.

Editorial Board:
Nathan Chiantella, photo editor
Alex Sirrey, opinion editor
Molly Little, opinion intern

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

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Submissions are based upon one person's opinion of a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth.

An "I-can't-believe-you-work-for-JMU" dart to the visitor's shuttle bus driver who hit a woman while she was jogging in your way and then laughed about it.
From a student in disbelief of how irresponsible you can be and how poorly you represented JMU to all of the visitors who saw you.

A "way-to-overcome-the-odds" pat to a housemate who, despite having had his toes bitten off, has fearlessly learned to navigate every obstacle in his path.
From someone who admires such a steady and can-do spirit in something so small as a parakeet.

A "way-to-be-elusive" dart to love.
From a worthy student.

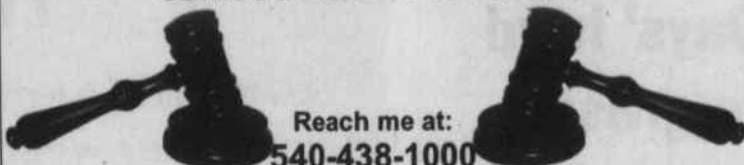
A "some-people-don't-suck" pat to the girl in my English class who offered to switch seats with me and who then ran after me when I left my book in class.
From a junior who was too tired to think straight and hopes you didn't see him pass out face down on his desk.

A "you-guys-crack-me-up" pat to my wacky suite mates who decided to put up signs all over our hall recruiting people to be in a porn movie.
From a "very entertained" suite mate that still hasn't gotten over you guys hiding during a fire drill.

A "your-gluttony-amazes-me" pat to my roommate for eating half a chicken and 10 maple doughnuts.
From an amazed sophomore who is glad you ate it so he didn't.

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LACROSSE VS. LOYOLA
3 PM
JMU LACROSSE FIELD

YOUTH DAY - CHANCE TO WIN STX MERCHANDISE

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

SOFTBALL VS. TOWSON (DH)
NOON

JMU SOFTBALL FIELD

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NOON

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NOON

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NOON

JMU SOFTBALL FIELD

FIRST 75 FANS RECEIVE A DOG BONE CARABINER

BASEBALL VS. PENN STATE
1 PM

LONG FIELD/MAUCK STADIUM

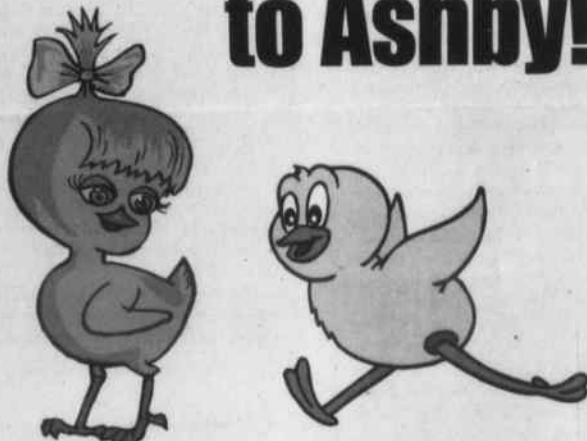
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'Heavenly Days' hard to grasp

BY ERIN WEIRETER
staff writer

Amidst the all-too-common chaos and frustration of the real world, it's nice to be reminded sometimes that our fate doesn't always necessarily rest in our own hands. Reading James Wilcox's "Heavenly Days" gave me that gentle reminder that, for all the things in life we don't understand, there comes a point where we have to stop trying to rationalize and for once just have faith.

Louise Jones is a middle-aged woman living in fictional Tula Springs, Louisiana, where she finds herself working as a receptionist at WaistWatch, a Christian fundamentalist health center, where every day clients are "gifted with a rise in self-esteem." Louise, who is completely overqualified for the job with a Ph.D. in music theory, struggles to accept the mediocrity of her day-to-day activities and tries to combat her boredom by coming to the aid of those around her whom she sees as in need of spiritual guidance.

Among those residents of Tula Springs that she tries to help include Alpha, her seemingly perfectionist housekeeper, Alpha's mother, a somewhat delusional yet utterly refined older woman, Maigrette, Louise's friend and coworker who suffers from perpetual coldness and an inferiority complex, and her husband Don, an unemployed computer programmer residing in his dead parents' house.

Yet through all of Louise's well-intended meddling, her actions seem to create more confusion than calm in the lives of those around her. Wallowing in frustration and unable to understand why God is seemingly letting her down, Louise finally realizes she can only control so much when a longtime friend reminds her of one simple idea — God isn't man, and his ways can't be judged, or understood for that matter, by those here on Earth.

This book isn't about religious faith. You have to look beyond that initial impression that the writing seems to suggest. This book is about having a stronger belief in something. Believing in something — anything — will help you realize that no matter what curves life throws at you, it is and will always be a beautiful thing. Embracing the eccentricities and misfortunes that we all undoubtedly come across is a part of what makes us complete.

However, I don't think everyone will appreciate this book. As Wilcox says himself in the book, "Cultural illiteracy is so rampant nowadays that it's becoming a chore for a ... person to converse at all." No one exhibits this better than Wilcox himself — his depiction of such a wide array of oddball characters makes it difficult sometimes to follow his thought pattern, or more importantly, understand his meaning.

Not only that, the plot hardly progresses forward. I found the comedy of errors that Louise encounters somewhat endearing, but I'm sure many people would be bored by the stagnant nature that characterizes the book.

Yet, I would still tell people to read "Heavenly Days," if for no other reason than this book was welcome relief from my own personal issues and a nice reminder of the importance of having faith beyond the realm of your world.

trading faces

New Web site rivals Facebook, enables students to trade ugly friends for hot ones

Story by staff writer Hali Chiet • Graphics by contributing artist Lauren Pack

Hearts Broken:

Just admit it — you are one of the millions guilty of spending countless hours on TheFacebook.com. Chances are, you are starting to get bored looking at the same individuals' profiles, with their not-so-exciting lists of favorite movies, music and quotes. It is time you check out the newest interactive Web site — Catch27.com.

Catch27.com was created by E. Jean Carroll, an advice columnist for Elle magazine. Carroll came up with the idea for the Web site late last summer when she discovered TheFacebook.com. Her goal was to do something different — to create a web site that would satirize TheFacebook.com. "I thought kids were taking themselves a little too seriously, so as a spoof, I put up Catch27.com — a place where you not only collect friends, but you trade them for smarter, hotter ones," she said.

The concept of Catch27.com actually is quite different from TheFacebook.com, according to Lindsey Johnson, a Stanford graduate and director of campus public relations for Catch27.com. "If you look at the surface level and what the premise of the Web site is, it's a very evil, heartless thing," Johnson said. "However, it's real, and people like it when you're real and up front with them."

Sophomore Emily Leibel, who belongs to TheFacebook.com and has checked out the new Web site, thinks Catch27.com is a brutally honest web site. "Facebook is all about having friends, but half of them you barely even know," she said. "At least Catch27.com is honest about the fact that all the friends you 'have' are for trading to get prizes."

The name Catch27 was chosen because your life is over at 27, according to Carroll. "When you reach 27, that is when you have to make the big decisions in life — are you going to get married, are you going to have children, are you going to buy your first house, what are you doing with your career?" Carroll said.

By November 2004, Catch27.com was up and running. It has since received a great deal of attention. Johnson said the

site has become a great success since this past winter break.

Here is how the Web site works: Anyone over 18 years of age can join Catch27.com — there are no fees or additional requirements. After registering, the next step is making a "personal playing card," which includes a "playlist" — "a jacked-cool way of talking about yourself," according to the Web site. Current members have included their favorite swear word and fantasy make-outs.

In addition to the playlist, members create an "itch list," which describes what qualities the member looks for in a significant other. Members also must give themselves a label: jock, slut, brain, geek, bitch, wiseass, star, rebel or freak.

Once members have submitted this information, the fun begins. "The Web site offers a way for college students and young professionals to connect with their peers their way," Johnson said. "It's a fun, no-b.s. way to meet new people, but with that fiendish twist." The goal as a member is to create a "pack" — a group of 27 people who have something in common. The web site states this can be anything from "27 people with popped collars" to "27 people who say they loathe Jessica Simpson." It's as simple as that.

Individuals can create a pack by sending invites to members, "purchasing" members (three for 99 cents) or trading

friends with other members. If someone becomes an expert in collecting and trading friends, they will be rewarded with a trendy prize, such as an iPod. Although members really seem to enjoy winning prizes, Johnson says this is going to be put on hold. Starting in April, however, the Web site is holding a contest called "Trade Your Friends for Charity." Individuals may enter by themselves, or may gather a team. The goal is to collect the most people in their pack and trade those people for more interesting friends. The winning team or individual gets a \$10,000 prize — \$5,000 goes to a charity of their choice, and \$5,000 goes to the team or individual.

"I am just amazed at how evil the kids have turned this site," Carroll said. "It was a total joke, then the kids got onto it and it has just taken off."



Teacher's assistant juggles school, work

BY KATIE FLANAGAN
contributing writer

Students at JMU have taken at least one General Education class and dealt with the large classes, group projects and exams. In some classes, students take a quiz or have some assignment due almost every time it meets, and then have to wait another week to receive the grade. Some students may even have complained that the professor should help them more. However, what many students may not realize is that these professors often do have help — in the form of a teacher's assistant.

Senior Linsey Mayhew is one of these helpers. Mayhew is a full-time student with a busy schedule and social life, just like a lot of the students for which she is a TA. Not only must she attend her own classes, she also must attend the class in which she assists.

According to Amy Paugh, assistant professor of anthropology, having a TA is very beneficial. "As a TA, Mayhew holds office hours with students, [leads] exam study sessions and records participation in class

exercises, as well as providing me with feedback on class lectures, relaying student comments or concerns and some limited grading," Paugh said.

When a student can't make it to Mayhew's office hours, she meets them before class starts to allow them to copy notes or ask questions. "I have class during her office hours and so I met her once before class to get notes," freshman Katrina Smith said. "It's good to have someone reliable."

Some days, Mayhew is on campus from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m., when the library closes for the night. "Between the readings, attending classes, office hours and grading papers, I spend approximately eight hours fulfilling requirements for the TA position alone," Mayhew said. "No breaks for me!"

Paugh is very pleased with Mayhew's work as her TA. "She's intelligent, energetic, articulate, open-minded and involved," Paugh said. "I don't think she gets much sleep, but she is definitely a great

TA, student and concerned citizen."

Mayhew's plate is jam-packed with being a TA and a full-time student, but she also is the news director at WXJM 88.7, as well as the president of the JMU chapter of the International Justice Mission. Between classes, Mayhew can sometimes be found on the commons passing out flyers, hanging up posters or asking students to sign petitions.

"Linsey not only satisfies all my requirements as a TA, she is also a very kind and concerned person who is very active in a number of organizations and activist groups," Paugh said. "She continually brings new issues to my awareness that I can then share with students. I'm very pleased to have had the chance to get to know Linsey, both in and out of the classroom."

Mayhew will wake tomorrow morning, sit down for a quick breakfast and coffee and head off to campus to do it all again, because when she graduates in May, she will no longer be the TA, but the teacher. "It is too bad public primary schools usually do not provide teaching assistants, because I would love one of my own next year!" Mayhew said.



JONATHAN TAYLOR/
contributing photographer

Senior Linsey Mayhew works as the news director at WXJM 88.7 and is a teacher's assistant to Amy Paugh, assistant professor of anthropology. As TA, Mayhew answers students' questions and provides feedback.



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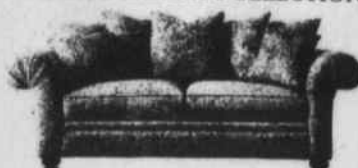
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SWEETS: Cupcakes

BY CARRIE TEICHERT
contributing writer

Aside from Halloween, Easter is a greatly anticipated holiday for any true candy lover. We all have our favorite festive treat that we hope will be left by the Easter Bunny. Temptation rears its ugly head, luring us to consume chocolate eggs, jelly beans and marshmallow peeps — but there may be an even more delicious way to enjoy the day. Instead of gorging on just store-bought munchies, try a different approach by incorporating them into creating your own fun and festive spring treat. These Spring Bud Cupcakes are a perfect way to blend candy cravings and delicious desserts into one.



Spring Bud Cupcakes

Ingredients:
1 bag M&Ms milk chocolate candies for Easter
1 bag 3 Musketeers minis for Easter
1 18.25-oz. box yellow cake mix
2 12-oz. cans whipped vanilla frosting
Red, blue, yellow and purple food coloring
24 paper cupcake liners
Cupcake pan
4 piping bags or resealable plastic bags
4 star tips, optional

Directions: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line the cupcake cups with the paper cupcake liners. Unwrap and chop two cups of the 3 Musketeers minis. Prepare the cake mix according to the package directions and fold in the chopped candy. Divide the batter between the cups and bake until golden (about 17-21 minutes). Remove from the oven, transfer to a wire rack and let cool completely. Divide one can of vanilla frosting into quarters, tinting one pink, one blue, one purple, and one yellow. With the remaining vanilla frosting, cover the tops of the cupcakes. Fit the plastic bags or piping bags with star tips. Spoon one color of tinted frosting into each bag. Pipe yellow frosting centers and then pipe colored frosting rosettes around the edges. Decorate the cupcakes with coordinating colors of M&Ms to the tops of the rosettes.

Source: Brightideas.com

Fox TV president taking new job

BY GARY GENTILE
Associated Press

Gail Berman, president of entertainment at the Fox Television network, is leaving to take an unspecified role at Paramount Pictures.

Paramount confirmed Tuesday it is in discussions with Berman about a "senior creative role at the studio" and hoped to reach a deal soon.

A Fox spokesman declined to comment. Berman is "one of the most talented executives in the entertainment industry, with great relationships, exceptional taste, and an amazing creative track record," Paramount said in a short statement issued late Tuesday.

Berman would be the first high-profile hire of studio chief Brad Grey, who himself took the top spot at Paramount earlier this month.

Grey came to Paramount with extensive television experience. He had run the talent agency Brillstein-Grey Entertainment and produced films and television shows, most notably the HBO series "The Sopranos."

Berman has led Fox for five years, a relatively long tenure in the pressure-cooker job of network entertainment.

After its traditional slow start, Fox caught fire in January with the return of "American Idol." Largely on the strength of that show, Fox is currently No. 1 this season among viewers aged 18 to 49, the young demographic it craves, while ranking fourth when all viewers are counted.

Fox has used "American Idol" as a lead-in to build audiences for some critically acclaimed shows, like "24" and the hot new medical drama "House."

Otherwise, Fox has had trouble developing scripted successes. Despite winning an Emmy for best comedy last fall, there's still some question about whether "Arrested Development" has enough of an audience to survive.

Except for "American Idol," Fox entertainment's once hot reality show division has cooled.

Berman has been a vocal proponent of the concept of year-round scheduling, as opposed to concentrating most of the new shows in the fall. That's partly due to the fact that Fox carries postseason baseball, which prevents its fall shows from getting traction.

Although Berman successfully introduced "The O.C." in summer 2003, last year's crop of summertime shows was a flop.

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CAROLYN WALSER/senior photographer

JMU freshman midfielder Lauren Bradley rushes downfield with the ball against Dartmouth.

Green not Dukes' favorite color

BY JAMES IRWIN
sports editor

Facing their highest-ranked opponent of the season, JMU came out flat.

Dartmouth College opened the game with six goals in the first 17 minutes and the No. 7 Big Green hung on for a 14-12 win over the Dukes Tuesday at the JMU Lacrosse Complex.

"I thought we didn't show up in the beginning of the game and that was the kicker," JMU coach Kellie Young said. "I honestly think this team is still trying to figure out who is going to control the tempo and we tend to play three-quarter instead of all-out."

Dartmouth midfielder Katieanne Christian led the way with

five goals, two of which came during the Big Green's opening run. Christian, who entered the game tied for fourth in the Ivy League in goals per game, took advantage of JMU's slow start by attacking the net.

"No doubt she's a great player," JMU senior defender Ashlee Dardine said. "We were ready but the slides were just a second slow. We were back on our heels a little bit and let them in the crease a lot."

Offensively, the Dukes were

equally sluggish, turning the ball over 16 times, often in critical situations.

"We lost it with turnovers," Young said. "When our defense would have big stops we'd throw the ball away. Every player had one big turnover that hurt us."

Down 6-0 and sputtering offensively, JMU still refused to fold. The Dukes went on a 4-1 run on goals from sophomore midfielder Lynlee Cronin, junior attacker Brooke McKenzie and freshman midfielders Julie Stone and Emily Haller to trim the lead to 7-4 at the 7:11 mark in the half.

"It was just going about it one at a time," senior midfielder Jessica Brownridge said. "We go inch-by-inch and chip away."

Brownridge rounded out JMU's run 29 seconds later, firing a shot over Dartmouth goalkeeper Devon Wills' left shoulder.

"We started getting the draw and that allowed us to push the fast break," Brownridge said. "That's what we're good at. Once we got a couple of fast break goals it started rolling."

JMU went into halftime down 9-8. The Dukes came within one again at 10-9 with 25:26 left in the game, but Dartmouth went on a 4-1 run to take a 14-10 lead with 9:59 remaining.

JMU trimmed the lead to 14-12 and regained possession with just over two minutes remaining.

see LAX, page 12

Mauck Stadium marathon

Schill beats Bobcats on bases-loaded single in 12th inning

BY MATTHEW STOSS
assistant sports editor

In the top of the third inning, JMU's Nate Schill made an error that let Ohio University take a 3-2 lead over the Diamond Dukes. Nine innings later, nobody remembered.

With two outs in the bottom of the 12th, the junior third baseman smacked a single with the bases loaded to score pinch runner, freshman Joe Lake from third and lift JMU over Ohio University, 8-7 at Long Field/Mauck Stadium.

"It's difficult to separate fielding from hitting," Schill said. "We were working on that this fall and into the spring. If you make an error, don't take it into the next play and try to shut it out and do the next thing you're supposed to do."

It wasn't the only time Schill came through in the clutch.

In the bottom of ninth, the Diamond Dukes (6-11) were down 6-5 after the Bobcats (3-10) took the lead in the seventh on a two-run double. Schill sent the contest into extra innings when he singled in junior second baseman Michael Cowgill from third and tied the game at 6 apiece.

Schill finished the game 4 for 6, with a double and three runs batted in.

"When we go gap-to-gap and stay back on the ball, we're unbelievable," JMU coach Spanky McFarland said.

Also turning in multi-hit performances for the Diamond Dukes were freshman left fielder Kellen Kulbacki (4-6, with an RBI triple), junior first

baseman Matt Bristow (4-6 with an RBI double) and Cowgill (2-6 with two runs scored). However, the hits weren't as timely as some might have preferred.

"We hit until runners are on base, then we're stupid," McFarland said. "The good news is that we're swinging the bats, but the bad news is we're not scoring. Hopefully, that is something we can rectify."

The Diamond Dukes left 28 runners on base and made three errors — all of which led to Bobcat runs in the third and sixth innings.

"Basically, this game was about two teams that were struggling," McFarland said. "It was two teams that want to win, but neither team knows how to win."

Ohio made four errors, the last of which was most costly.

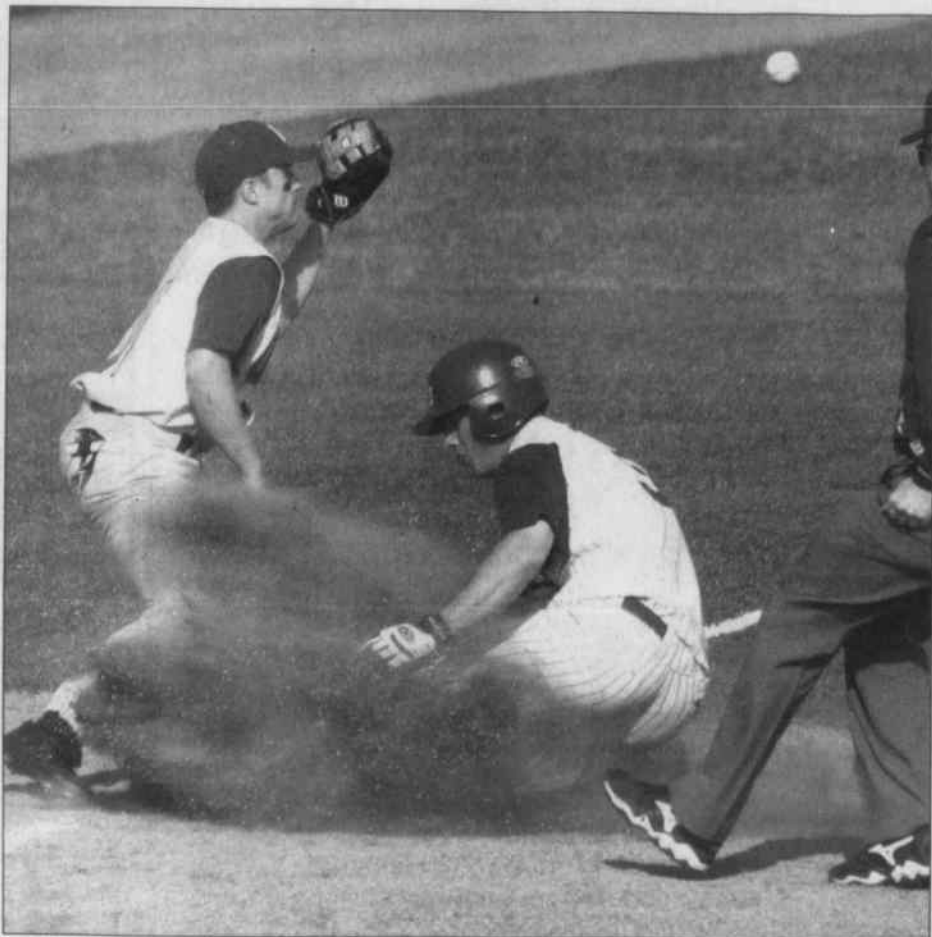
"I guess it was just whoever was going to take advantage of each other's mistakes and fortunately we had the last at-bats," Bristow said.

Two batters before Schill stepped to the plate, sophomore catcher Dan Santobianco scored from third on an errant pickoff move by Ohio reliever Daniel Weiss to tie the game at 6-6.

"Errors play a key role at every level," Kulbacki said. "They are always going to come back and haunt you. Today was a great example of how booted balls turn into runs. If you see an error, you have to capitalize on it."

Sophomore right-hander Travis Rissler picked up the win for the Diamond Dukes, improving to a team-best 4-1. He struck out eight, giving up four hits in five and two-thirds innings of relief.

see WIN, page 12



EVIN SHOAP/senior photographer

JMU freshman left fielder Kellen Kulbacki slides into third just before the ball in Tuesday's game against Ohio University. Kulbacki was one of four Diamond Dukes posting multi-hit games, going 4 for 6 with a triple and an RBI. As a team, JMU pounded out a season-high 17 hits in the 12-inning contest.

Sports editor says 'farewell' to the comfy chair

Today I feel like former NBA superstar Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, except I'm not seven feet tall and I have yet to master the intricacies of "The Sky Hook."

In the movie *Forget Paris*, comedic actor Billy Crystal plays an NBA referee who throws Abdul-Jabbar out of a game on the legend's farewell tour. As Crystal eloquently puts it, "Let me be the first to say, farewell!"

My yearlong stint atop *The Breeze* sports totem pole comes to an end today, much to the dismay of those who enjoy my layout designs and columns. Indeed, dozens of avid readers across campus are in mourning on account of my departure.

This experience on the editorial staff has been both educational and beneficial. I learned how to run a

newspaper and manage my own staff of writers — at least those who actually wrote. I became fluent in AP style. I even learned how to change font types four times in the middle of production.

Although sarcastic, I am grateful for this worthwhile experience. I greatly benefited from being in the right place at the right time. How many 20-year-olds can lay claim to covering a national championship game? How many sports editors can say they wrote a story on a National Player of the Year candidate? Thanks to the 2004 JMU football team and former lacrosse standout Gail Decker, I was able to do both in a span of nine months. And I owe those opportunities to *The Breeze*.

I also benefited from working with a talented assistant sports editor

named Matt Stoss, the only other man on campus who knows what it's like to

sit at the office on a Saturday night, waiting to edit a soccer story that never comes in.

Stoss will take over the reigns as sports editor after this issue. I'll miss the road trips we took as we chronicled JMU football's national championship run, the best of which was a stormy four-hour drive we made to Villanova, along with former photo editor Nathan Chiantella.

THE HOT CORNER



JAMES IRWIN

Nathan recently was appointed editor in chief of *The Breeze*. Everything you need to know about his work ethic lies in that he shot two rolls of film in a hurricane during that JMU-Villanova game. Everything you need to know about Nathan's preparation skills lies in that he did it without a raincoat.

It would be wrong of me to write my farewell column without thanking Nathan's former partner in crime, Amy Paterson, whose dedicated work makes this paper look good. And a big shout out to our bookkeeper Susan Shifflet — with my departure, you're the only Yankee fan (and thus the most intelligent sports mind) left in the office (sorry Matt, you lose).

I digress.

When I came to JMU, my goal was

to be involved. In the past year, I've written nearly 50 stories, worked 30-hour weeks, ate countless meals on the run and logged over 3,700 travel miles to bring you punctual information.

I poured everything I had into this section and as I depart from the editor's chair, (a really comfortable chair I might add) I'd like to think the product shows that. This school year, 185 of the 186 stories in *The Breeze* sports were written by JMU students. We stayed away from professional sports and the Associated Press and gave you something you can't get anywhere else, all-JMU, all the time.

I hope you've enjoyed it. Most of the time, I have.

James Irwin is a sophomore SMAD major.

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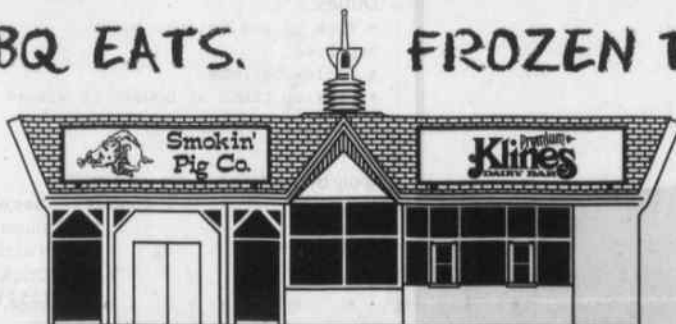
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LAX: DC's early strike too much for Dukes

LAX, from page 10

But Dartmouth's defense clamped down and prevented the Dukes from getting off a good shot the rest of the way.

"We're looking to certain players to put the ball in the back of the net," Young said. "It showed there. We were looking to Kelly [Berger], but nobody else was moving off the ball. We need to fix that. This game

was a wakeup call in terms of playing from the first whistle."

The road doesn't get any easier for JMU as the Dukes host No. 16 Loyola College Friday, in a game pitting former Colonial Athletic Association rivals. Loyola and JMU have combined for 11 of the CAA's 13 conference championships.

"This is going to be fuel," Young said of the Dartmouth loss.

"Our team is going to be fired up for [Loyola]."

And Brownridge said she would like nothing better than to beat the Greyhounds on her last attempt.

"The fire of having a loss, you always come back stronger," Brownridge said. "In my four years, we unfortunately have never beaten Loyola. Friday will be the final call."

WIN: JMU holds on to beat OU

WIN, from page 10

"We need to get him out there more," McFarland said. "He's our closer and he's one of our best pitchers. Today was the most he's pitched in two years."

Starter sophomore right-hander Bobby Lasko was a victim of errors, lasting six and one-third innings while giving up six runs, only four of which were earned.

"Bobby should be 5-0 right now," McFarland said. "Every game he's started, we've had a chance to win."

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(O) Angelocchi, Uita (2), Silverman (3), O'Rourke (7), Weiss (9), Heyman (12), (J) Lasko, Riser (7), W — Riser, L — Weiss
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