


PICTURETHIS

A new tradition etched in stone

Madison Society unveils Spirit Rock

By MICHELLE HITE ('88)

One of JMU's newest student organizations, the Madison Society, unveiled what it hopes will become a new JMU tradition — Spirit Rock. Not quite as huge as Kissing Rock, the five-foot rock rests on the Festival Conference and Student Center lawn, and students painted purple and gold messages on it after an unveiling ceremony in March. University Unions Director Dave Barnes addressed the inaugural group of signers/painters. "We hope Spirit Rock will become another symbol of what it means to be a part of the JMU community," he said. "Signing Spirit Rock will be an ongoing, positive tradition for JMU, and we hope it gets painted over and over with positive messages."

The Madison Society, which was founded in early 2011, aims "to serve the JMU community by promoting, enhancing, and celebrating JMU's finest traditions." The organization will attempt to unite students, alumni professors and administrators who share a passion for Madison. 

* Watch a video and learn more at www.facebook.com/pages/The-Madison-Society/179433958767617 or @Madison_Society on Twitter.



James Madison impersonator Sarah Everette ('12) signs Spirit Rock as President James Madison after the unveiling ceremony.



University Unions Director Dave Barnes asked students to share positive messages or sign their names during Spirit Rock's unveiling. (Right): Stephen Rodgers, medical director for Student Health Services, shares advice.

