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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Very few of them are going to make a living playing baseball. [You] got to think about that. They're going to be men. They're going to have families, they're going to have jobs. It's really my mission as a coach is to create men first.”

SPORTS | 12

NUMBER OF THE DAY

20

In 2011, JMU's student body was ranked 20th happiest in the entire nation by Newsweek.

TODAY WILL BE  
Partly cloudy/wind  
35° / 11°  
chance of rain: 20%

# The Breeze

Serving James Madison University Since 1922

## A NEW CLASS TO CONSIDER

An in-depth look at JMU admissions where high school GPA has no weight

**By CAROLINE BRANDT**  
*The Breeze*

That first building you see when you turn onto campus from Port Republic Road is Sonner Hall. Often overlooked, Sonner is where the decision to offer you admission into JMU is made.

On Jan. 8, JMU released its early action decisions, notifying many future Dukes that they have been admitted to JMU through the early admission process.

One of those students is Brandon Wimette from Dominion High School in Sterling, Virginia. Wimette is ranked No. 85 in his class of more than 300 students.

Wimette applied to four other universities, including Christopher Newport University, Old Dominion University, West Virginia University and the University of South Carolina. However, Wimette felt most at home when he visited JMU this past summer. He plans to major in business and pay his deposit this week.

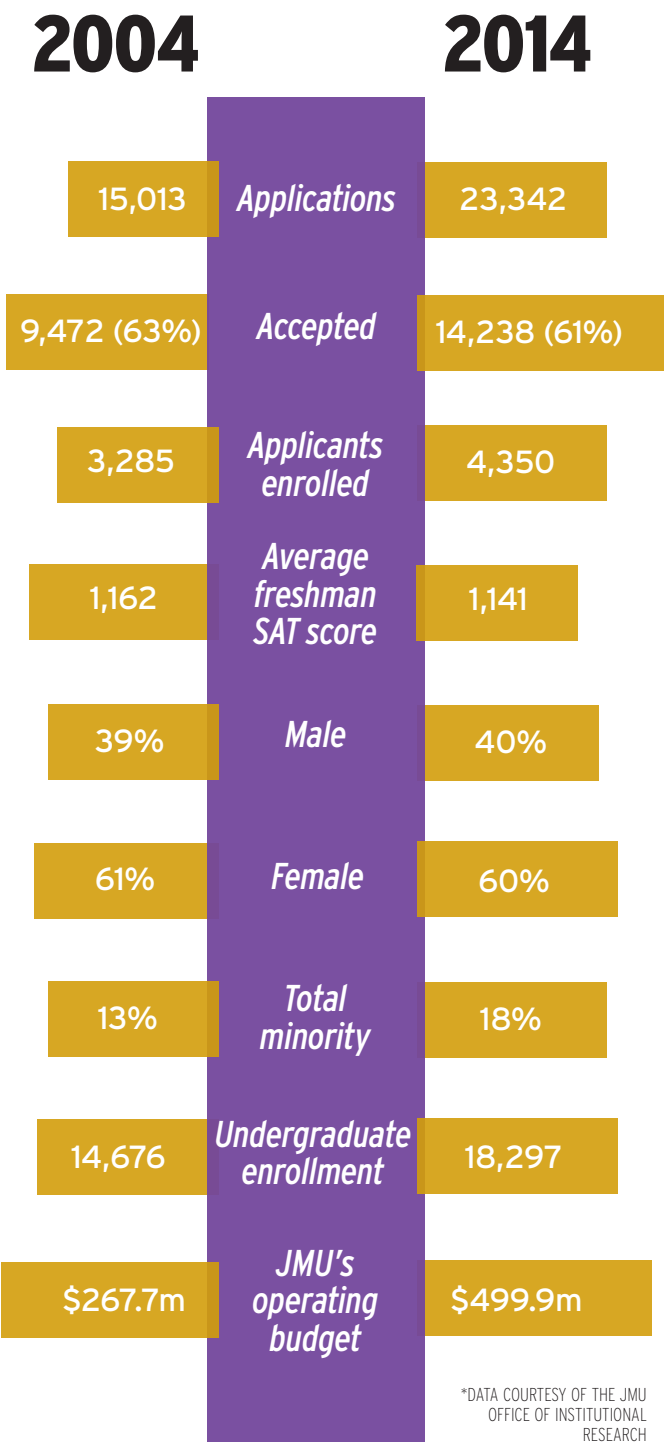
“Everyone I saw there on campus looked like they were all genuinely happy, and that’s really important to me,” Wimette said. “Also, JMU has a reputation of being a great school for getting a job and having a good life after college.”

Dean of Admissions Michael Walsh elaborated on the early action admission process and provided some insight into what an admissions committee looks for when reviewing an application.

“There’s no disadvantage to applying [for] regular [admission] — there’s no advantage to applying early from an admissions standpoint,” Walsh said. “The advantage to applying early is more up to the student. If they get in, and that’s where they want to go, they’re done.”

According to Walsh, this year, JMU saw between 23,000 and 24,000 applicants. Between 13,000 and 14,000 were

see **ADMISSIONS**, page 5



## Task force investigates security breach

Faculty Senate group will assess what JMU is doing to protect personal information

**By JESSICA NEWMAN AND IJ CHAN**  
*The Breeze*

JMU’s recent security breach could serve as a wakeup call for the university.

Last December, JMU announced that an electronic file containing information on 2,800 current and former university faculty and staff was accessed by an unknown third party. The electronic file included names, dates of birth, contact information, social security numbers and insurance information.

According to David McGraw, the speaker of the Faculty Senate and an integrated science and technology professor, a number of faculty members didn’t feel comfortable with the way JMU communicated to them about the breach.

“The little press release that the university put in December was so short and so vague — it just didn’t really tell us what happened,” McGraw said. “Just to give you an example, it never mentions on what day it happened ... there’s a lot of information that was never disclosed and they’re really playing it close to the vest.”

Members of the Faculty Senate

see **FORCE**, page 4

## Matthew charged with murder

Suspect also indicted for abduction of U.Va. student

**By ERIN FLYNN**  
*The Breeze*

The recent indictment of Jesse Matthew Jr. has resulted in him being charged with the first-degree murder of 18-year-old Hannah Graham, a second-year University of Virginia student who went missing last September and whose remains were found in October.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Albemarle County Commonwealth’s Attorney Denise Lunsford announced that Matthew was indicted on Feb. 2 for the abduction and murder of Graham.

She also clarified that Matthew has not been charged with capital murder, which can carry the death penalty. Even though she didn’t explain the reasoning behind him not being charged with capital murder, she said there are many considerations when making these decisions.

“I’m not going to discuss the specific facts and circumstances that led to this consideration for ethical reasons, however, understand that a great deal of serious thought went into this determination, including the impact on the community, the Grahams and the need to provide Mr. Matthew with a fair trial,” Lunsford said at the press conference.

Lunsford also believes that while

see **GRAHAM**, page 3



Sean Townsend, a senior English major and co-president of Word is Born, performs at an open mic night on Tuesday.

**By ROBYN SMITH**  
*The Breeze*

288 miles.

That’s how far Katherine Dolan, a ’14 alumna, is traveling to emcee JMU’s Word is Born Writers’ Society’s third annual Love Me, Love Me Not poetry jam. But to her, the four-and-a-half-hour drive from her home in Blowing Rock, North Carolina, is worth it. She created the event back when she was a junior at JMU.

“It’s for family,” Dolan said. “That’s why I’m coming back. Word is Born is my family. I couldn’t let them down.”

Word is Born has grown since Dolan first joined as a sophomore in 2011. The club has tripled in size and now nearly 20 poets are scheduled to perform at the poetry jam on Thursday.

“It’s like having a child and then your child

grows up to be a rock star,” Dolan said. “I just think that it’s catching on because of the people in the club. It almost speaks to the level of competence of our performance poetry and shows that our members do ... it’s just becoming a really contagious and fun thing to do.”

The club itself provides a creative outlet for its members to express their feelings through writing. Wednesday meetings are referred to as “workshops” by the co-presidents. Every week, the goal is to develop the voices of new and returning writers through open mic nights, poetry jams, community service and creative writing workshops. According to Oslin, the passionate members translate their lives into the best form possible and help others do the same. The whole point of this long process is to get their stories out to the public.

see **WORD**, page 9





Friday  
partly cloudy  
31°/18°



Saturday  
PM showers  
41°/9°



Sunday  
partly cloudy  
17°/5°

## The Breeze

Serving James Madison University Since 1922

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### MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student, faculty and staff 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 First Amendment rights.

Published Monday and Thursday mornings, The Breeze is distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Single copies of The Breeze are distributed free of charge. Additional copies are available for 50 cents by contacting our business office. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Sean Cassidy, editor.

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## Correction

In The Breeze's Feb. 9 issue, the news story "UHC teams up with RMH," misquoted Dr. Stephen Rodgers, implying the UHC carries narcotics in its pharmacy, which it doesn't. The headline on the jump page of the story incorrectly implied the UHC would accept insurance for the new program when it will only be accepted by RMH. The photo that accompanied the story incorrectly showed the appointment entrance to the UHC, but the orthopedic services will only be available in the walk-in entrance.

TH

Feb. 12

Public Talk: When I Grow Up, I Want to be a Rocket Scientist @ Wilson Hall auditorium, 7 p.m.

Open Mic @ Little Grill, 8 p.m.

Salsa Night @ The Artful Dodger, 9 p.m.

Music: Weekend Warmup with DJ Neils Barkley @ Ruby's, 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

F

Feb. 13

My Bloody Valentine Cabaret @ Court Square Theater, 18 and up, \$10 advanced tickets, \$15 at the door, 8 p.m.

Live Music: The Trongone Band + Brock Butler (Perpetual Groove) @Clementine, 21 and up, \$7 cover, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Bitter Ball: Anti-Valentine's Day Party @ The Artful Dodger, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SA

Feb. 14

Live Music: Valentine's Day Dinner Music with the JMU Music Students Jazz Band @ Clementine Cafe, free, 6 to 10 p.m.

Mardi Gras @ The Artful Dodger, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

SU

Feb. 15

Women's Basketball vs Delaware @ Convocation Center, 1 p.m.

JMU Steel Band @Music Building Room 108, free, 2 p.m.

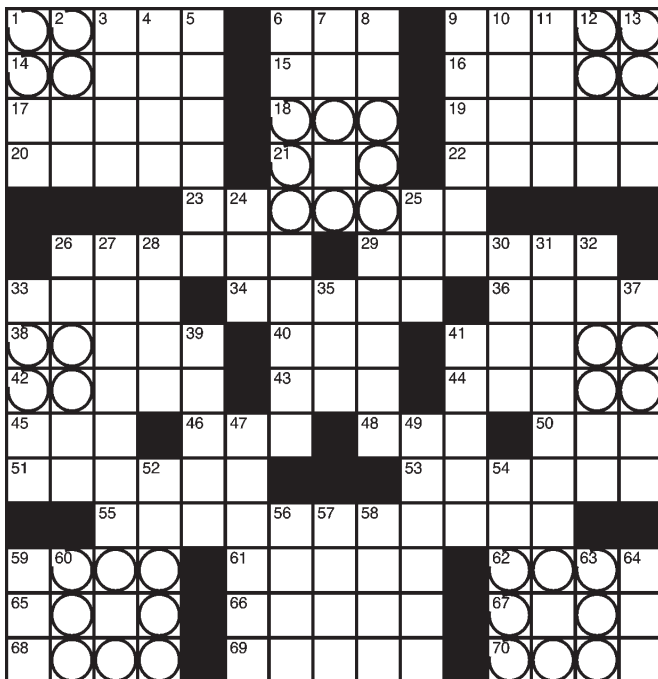
Local Brunch spots: A Bowl of Good Café, The Artful Dodger, Bella Luna, Billy Jack's, Cinnamon Bear Bakery, Clementine Café, Corgans' Publick House, Earth & Tea Cafe, FoodBarFood, Heritage Bakery & Café, Jess' Quick Lunch, Jimmy Madison's Southern Kitchen and Whiskey Bar, Little Grill Collective, Local Chop & Grill House, L&S Diner, Mr. J's Bagels, Ruby's

Missing something? Send us your events at breezecopy@gmail.com.

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Popular
  - Scale syllables
  - Drives away
  - Simple-living sect
  - Guitar attachment?
  - Pope John Paul II's given name
  - Warm-water ray
  - Ziegfeld with follies
  - Donald Jr.'s mom
  - One of the deadly sins
  - What a flap may cover
  - Four-time Emmy winner for Outstanding Drama Series
  - Longtime Lehrer partner
  - \_\_\_ spoon
  - Coniferous secretions
  - "The imperious \_\_\_ breed monsters": Shakespeare
  - New England food fish
  - Goes bad
  - Edible pockets
  - Sign before Virgo
  - Canadian bottle size
  - Computer text code
  - Sturdy tree
  - Bond's car starter?
  - Pi-sigma link
  - "Life Is Good" rapper
  - Pig's digs
  - Lacking a mate
  - Broadway songwriting team \_\_\_ and Ebb
  - Starts from scratch
  - Urban centers, and what this puzzle's circles represent
  - Start of a spell
  - Dome openings
  - Melville's Billy
  - China neighbor
  - Fabric information spot
  - Ruse
  - 1953 Caron film



By Jeffrey Wechsler

- Helps with the dishes
- Michaelmas mo.

### DOWN

- Priest from the East
- Mogadishu-born model
- Wenceslaus, e.g.
- Acapulco-to-Oaxaca dirección
- Greg's sitcom wife
- Series of biological stages
- C.S. Lewis lion
- Shelf-restocking sources
- Résumé essentials
- "\_\_\_ Nagila"
- Unwritten
- Chaplin granddaughter
- Diner side
- Animal in some of Aesop's fables
- Mil. roadside hazard
- Teahouse hostess
- Certain exterminator's concern
- Morales of "La Bamba"
- Pupil controller

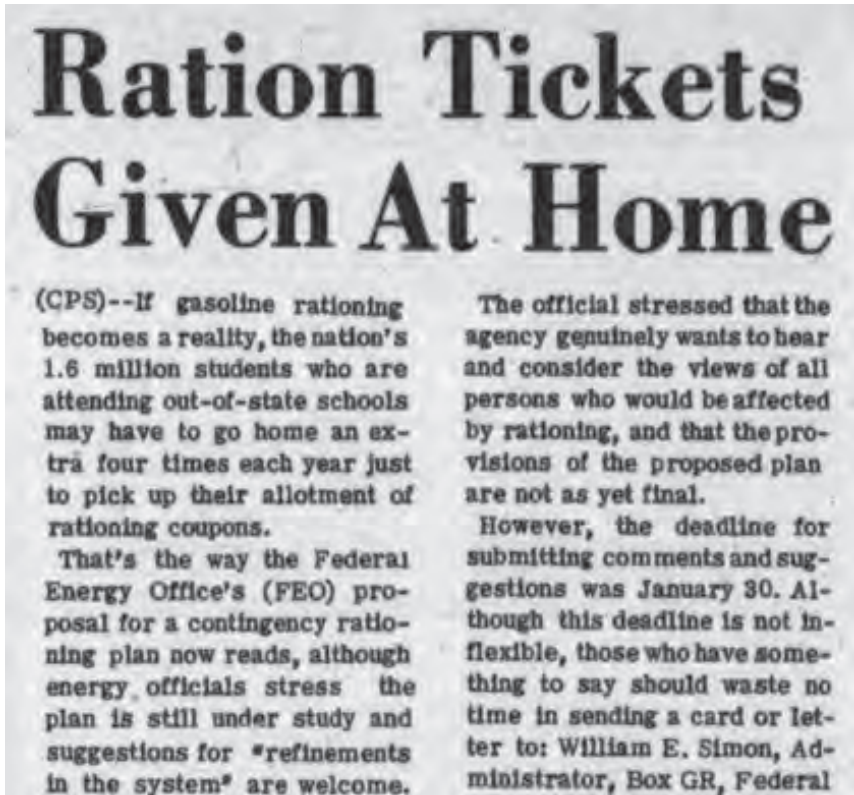
### Monday's puzzle solved

A	B	C	D		S	H	U	T		D	E	F	E	R
S	O	U	R		M	O	N	A		E	L	A	T	E
H	O	L	E	P		U	N	C	H		S	A	N	T
E	N	L	A	I						L	I	N	I	N
					M	N	E	M	O	N	I	C		
C	O	S	T		M	A	G	I	C		C	H	A	R
U	R	I		S	M	L				A	U	D	I	O
B	O	X	S	E	A	T				A	R	T	D	E
I	N	A	W	E						R	U	E	L	E
C	O	M	E	D	Y	C	L	U	B			P	E	R
						M	R	R	O	G	E	R	S	
P	R	O	P	O	S	A	L			F	A	Z	E	S
L	E	D	O	N			B	L	A	C	K	L	I	S
E	F	I	L	E			B	E	L	A		M	O	P
D	I	N	K	Y			E	D	A	M		S	N	O

- Having second thoughts
- Took steps
- Bit of inspiration
- Baha'i, e.g.: Abbr.
- Ships
- Strength
- Cake section
- Composer Schoenberg
- Gets behind
- "\_\_\_ say!": parental warning
- Results of getting behind
- Dueling memento
- Android media console brand
- 1997 Fonda role
- The whole lot
- Chinese-born actress \_\_\_ Ling
- Fist bump
- Combo vaccine, for short

# #JMUtbt

Every "Throwback Thursday" the copy desk will be researching our print archives (breezejmu.org/archives) to take you back in time and see what events *The Breeze* has covered. Have a suggestion on what we should research? Email us at breezecopy@gmail.com.



## Feb. 12, 1974

On this day in 1974, *The Breeze* reported on the guidelines surrounding potential gasoline rationing. The Oil Crisis of 1973 was still hitting America hard, as in the final week of February 1974, 20 percent of gas stations reported having no fuel. The issue at hand was that students would have to go to the county where their license and registration were issued to pick up their gasoline rationing tickets. The Oil Crisis ended in March, however, so the rationing coupon system was never implemented.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### China targets int'l companies

McClatcy Foreign Staff

BEIJING — Over the last year, China has become an increasingly hostile place to conduct business, especially for tech companies, manufacturers and other big industries, according to an annual survey of more than 470 U.S. and foreign companies released Wednesday by the American Chamber of Commerce in China. The survey found rising concerns about protectionist policies in China and unfair targeting of foreign companies for monopolistic practices. In 2013, only 40 percent of companies surveyed said the government was "singling out" foreign companies for prosecution. In the latest survey, conducted in November, that figure had risen to 57 percent.

### Google buys wind farm

San Jose Mercury News

LIVERMORE, Calif. — Google has spent \$1.5 billion around the world on clean energy projects cutting the pollution from millions of users clicking on search links, watching YouTube videos and sending emails, but now it's found a powerful electricity source close to home. The company will announce Wednesday that it is buying power from the Altamont Pass, one of the nation's oldest, largest and most iconic wind farms that is about to get a Google-funded makeover. About 770 old turbines from the 1980s will be replaced this year by 48 new machines producing twice as much energy.

### US has no candidates

Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — There's one year to go before the presidential voting starts, and no one's even inching to the starting gate. No one has announced a candidacy. No one's close. The field of potential candidates for the 2016 Democratic and Republican presidential nominations is quiet about running. They're raising money, ripping rivals, speaking at Iowa breakfasts, lunches and dinners — but they're holding back on announcements. It's a stark contrast from 2007 — the last time there was no incumbent running — when most of the big-name candidates were all in by mid-February.

## WORLD NEWS

### Panama reacts to new canal

Tribune Foreign Staff

PANAMA CITY — When it comes to interoceanic canals, Panamanians speak with a century of experience. So as nearby Nicaragua moves ahead with a plan to build what it claims would be a bigger, better canal, some Panamanians look on with interest and puzzlement. "We take the possibility of construction of a canal in Nicaragua very seriously," said Francisco J. Miguez, executive vice president for finance and administration of the Panama Canal Authority. The Nicaraguan plan is feasible, Miguez said. "We find that, technically, the project can be built ... with enough resources and time," he said.

### Libya faces political crisis

Tribune Foreign Staff

GENEVA — Four years after the uprising that led to the fall of Moammar Gadhafi, Libya is beset by human rights violations; assassinations of officials; killings of civilians and abuses by armed groups operating above the law, the United Nations said Tuesday. "Libya is facing the worst political crisis and escalation of violence since the 2011 armed conflict," a report by the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights concluded. "Two parliaments and governments claim legitimacy, while powerful armed groups exercise effective control on the ground, committing violations of international human rights and humanitarian law with impunity."

### ISIL hostage broadcast

Tribune Foreign Staff

IRBIL, Iraq — ISIL issued a new video Monday featuring its last known Western hostage narrating a news-broadcast-like report from the Syrian city of Aleppo and its surrounding areas. The 11-minute video featuring John Cantlie, who's been in ISIL custody since Nov. 22, 2012, is the third on-the-scene report from the British hostage since October. It feeds growing speculation among some observers that Cantlie's talents as a news presenter have made him more valuable to the Islamic State than just another soon-to-be-executed hostage because of his speaking skills.

Compiled from Tribune News Service.



## IN BRIEF

### HARRISONBURG

#### Dog park closed for water line installation

The Smithland Road Dog Park was temporarily closed to allow for road work to be done on Tuesday. Traffic in and out of the park will be closed off until next week as the Department of Public Utilities installs a new water line, according to Harrisonburg's Public Information Officer Mary-Hope Vass.

The 200-foot water line is 8 inches wide and will be installed to provide water to the local dog park, which is expected to reopen by the end of next week when construction is completed.

The Harrisonburg Department of Parks and Recreation overlooks the management of 10 parks, a playground, pools, trails and athletic fields in the area. More information on any schedule changes or unforeseen maintenance with regard to the project can be found at [harrisonburgva.com](http://harrisonburgva.com).

#### Obenshain announces bid for re-election

On Tuesday, Virginia State Senator Mark Obenshain announced that he will seek re-election to the 26th Senate district.

Obenshain, a member of the Republican Party, first entered office in 2004. In 2013, he was the Republican nominee for Virginia's attorney general election. He was defeated by his Democratic opponent Mark Herring, who won by a slim margin of 165 votes out of the more than two million cast.

In a press release from Friends of Mark Obenshain, Obenshain wrote that he loves his job and will continue to fight for education reform and fight against the proliferation of human trafficking and sex trafficking in Virginia.

"We can't afford to walk away from this fight," Obenshain said in the release. "There is too much at stake — in Virginia and across America. This year we need to hold our majority in the House of Delegates and our razor-thin — one vote — majority in the Senate."

As of now, Virginia's Senate currently stands at 21 Republicans and 19 Democrats. A special election will be held soon to fill the vacancy left by Democratic Senator Phillip Puckett's resignation in June 2014.

### ROANOKE

#### Animal abuse found at Natural Bridge Zoo

The Natural Bridge Zoo, a roadside zoo in Rockbridge County, was found to be in violation of 31 different federal regulations after a four-day inspection of the zoo by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, according to *The Roanoke Times*.

The inspection in early January found that animals were being cared for so poorly, that some experienced lameness, hair loss, skin lesions and overgrown hooves. Video evidence also shows that a DeBrazza's monkey was poked and prodded with sticks as it was transferred from one pet carrier to another.

Further inspection also found that dead guinea pigs with broken ribs were not humanely euthanized before being fed to large cats, but instead they were thrown forcibly onto a concrete floor.

The zoo has yet to be closed, but on the Tuesday following the USDA's report, the Humane Society made another call for the zoo's closing.

### RICHMOND

#### House moves forward on marijuana oil

On Tuesday, Virginia's House of Delegates voted 98-0 for Senate Bill 1235, which would make it easier for Virginians to access medical cannabis oils designed to treat forms of epilepsy, according to *The Washington Post*.

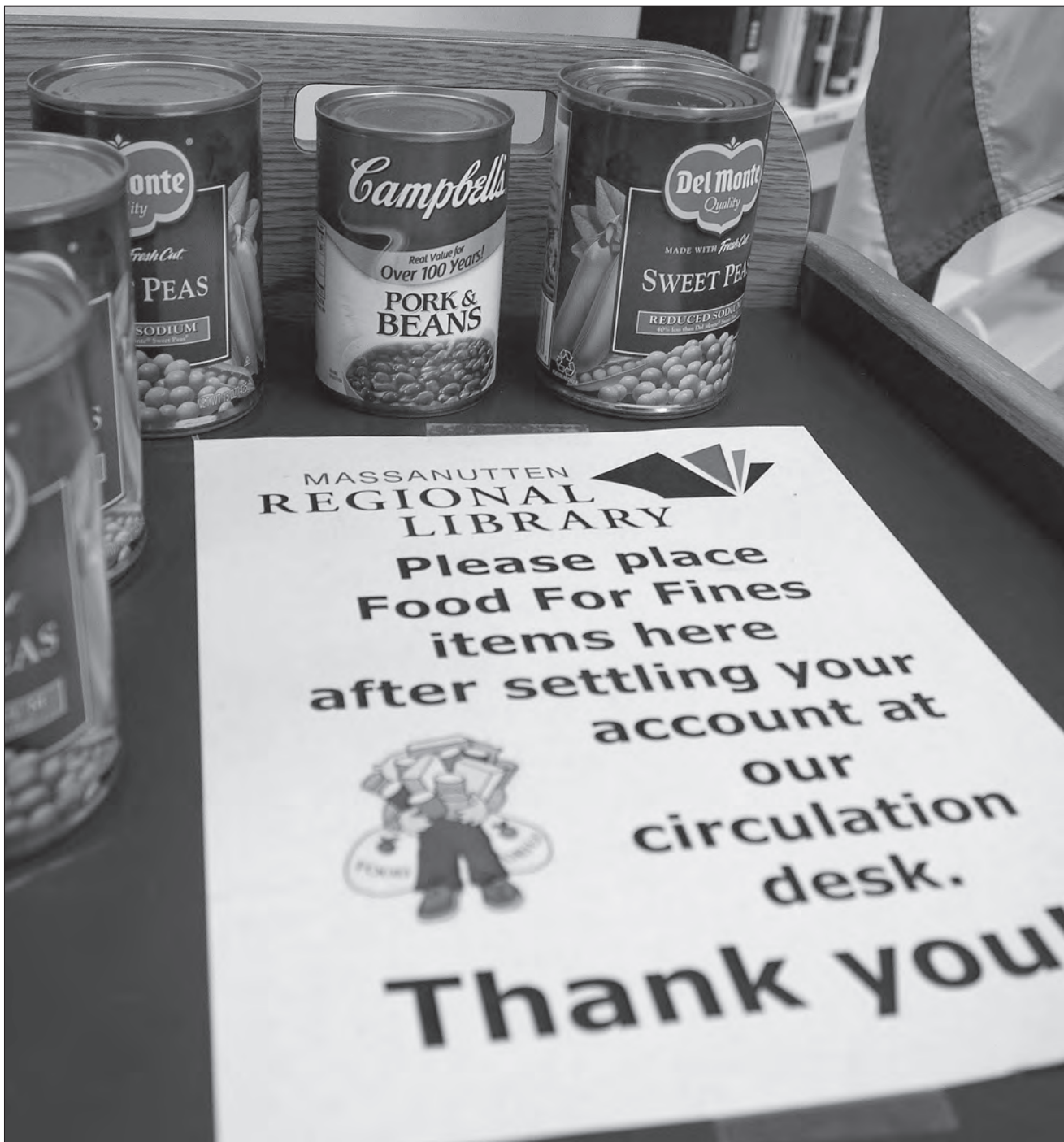
The bill doesn't necessarily legalize medical marijuana oil, but would instead provide users with an affirmative defense should they be found in possession of cannabidiol oil or THC-A oil for the treatment of seizures.

The practitioner who advises the patient and recommends cannabis oil for treatment will not be prosecuted for cannabis distribution, according to text from the bill. The bill will move to the Senate, which has passed legislation of its own similar to the House's.

Governor McAuliffe says he supports the legislation from both chambers and would likely sign them both into law should they be agreed upon.

# Fighting fines with food

Local libraries allow patrons to dismiss fees while benefiting their communities



DANIELLE EPIFANIO / THE BREEZE

The Food For Fines drive offers locals an opportunity to exchange food for payment of overdue library fees. Earlier Wednesday morning, eight to 10 boxes of food were delivered to a Harrisonburg food bank, according to Massanutten Regional Library Community Relations Manager Cheryl Griffith.

By SAM BAARS  
*The Breeze*

This week only, library patrons can take care of outstanding fines by using something other than currency.

All seven branches of the Massanutten Regional Library are accepting non-perishable food items as a means for paying outstanding library fines from Feb. 9 to 14. In this campaign, Food For Fines, every donated item substitutes for one dollar of the individual's fines and all donated food items will be given to local food banks at the end of the week.

Community Relations Manager Cheryl Griffith has worked for MRL for four years, all of which included a Food For Fines food drive in February, and

consciously so.

"It's an annual event that we hold every year to give back to our communities," Griffith said. "We understand that food banks are pretty much depleted after Thanksgiving and the December holidays, so we want to be generous and help out our communities and those in need."

MRL has branches in several areas, including Harrisonburg, Elkton, Grottoes, Bridgewater, Luray, Shenandoah and Broadway. Though all donated items are given to local food banks, the food stays within its own community.

For example, the Page Public Library and Shenandoah Community Library in Luray and Shenandoah, respectively, donate all of their collected goods to the

Page One food pantry, which is close to each library branch.

In 2014, Page One fed 8,217 individuals. Lois Shaffer, who has worked for Page One for 28 years, says this is a crucial time for donations.

"One morning, I looked out the front door and there we had lines and people waiting to be [served] food and I thought, 'You know what, you see this on TV every day, but now it has finally hit home in our community,'" Shaffer said.

Last month, Page One fed 565 families, and, because of this, the demand for food in the community is not decreasing, according to Shaffer.

see **FINES**, page 5

## GRAHAM | Families contacted about Matthew's recent indictment

from front

this ends the Graham investigation, it begins a new process — one she thinks will bring Matthew to justice for the crimes he allegedly committed.

"These indictments signal the beginning of the next stage in what has been an incredibly difficult process for the family of Hannah Graham, for our community and for the men and women of the many departments and agencies who have worked on this matter since September of last year," she said.

According to Lunsford, abduction with the intent to defile and first-degree murder also comes with the substantial penalty of 20 years. He could even face life in prison.

The Graham family and the family of 20-year-old Morgan Harrington, a Virginia Tech student whose disappearance and death in 2009 has been linked to Matthew, have been made aware of Matthew's indictment. However, there are no pending charges against Matthew regarding Harrington's case.

"Each investigation takes its own course. Law enforcement has been working diligently on all of these matters and the simple fact is that the case

involving Hannah Graham was ready to be charged first," Lunsford said. "If and when a determination is made in the case involving Morgan Harrington, then the community will be advised at the appropriate time."

According to Lunsford, Matthew is expected to make a video appearance in the Albemarle Circuit Court on Feb. 18 at 11 a.m.

Lunsford also attributed much of the success regarding this investigation to the departments, agencies and outside attention that was brought to this case.

"These departments and individuals came together as 'Team Hannah' and they brought the same high quality of professionalism to this investigation that I've seen them display many, many times in the past," Lunsford said. "It's because of the efforts of these professionals and these departments that we're here today to begin the process of seeking justice for Hannah Graham and for this community through the courts."

CONTACT Erin Flynn at [breezenews@gmail.com](mailto:breezenews@gmail.com).

## Man arrested in UNC shooting

Three Muslim students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill were shot and killed Tuesday evening near campus, according to Lt. Josh Mecimore of the Chapel Hill Police Department.

At 5:11 p.m., the Chapel Hill police responded to a report of gunshots at an off campus apartment complex. When they arrived, they found 23-year-old Deah Shaddy Barakat, his wife, 21-year-old Yusor Mohammad and her sister 19-year-old Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, all of whom were pronounced dead at the scene.

Police have arrested 46-year-old Craig Stephen Hicks and he has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder. Hicks is currently being held in the Durham County Jail.

According to police, a preliminary investigation indicates that the shooting occurred because an ongoing neighbor dispute over parking.

However, instead of focusing their attention on Hicks, many, including Chapel Hill Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt, are remembering those affected by the incident.

"Our community has been rocked by a horrible crime with the shootings of three young people," Kleinschmidt said in a statement. "On behalf of the Chapel Hill community, I ask that you join with me in remembering the parents, family and friends of Deah Shaddy Barakat, Yusor Mohammad and Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, in your thoughts and prayers. I offer them my heartfelt condolences."

- staff report



# FORCE | Despite Anthem hack, group will focus only on JMU breach



MATT SCHMACHTENBERG / THE BREEZE

Members of the Faculty Senate approved to have speaker David McGraw assemble the Computer Security Task Force on Jan. 29. The task force, which consists of Faculty Senate member Tim Louwers and four other professors, plans to begin its investigation of a hack that happened last semester by meeting with JMU's Information Technology tomorrow.

from front

approved to have McGraw assemble a five-person Computer Security Task Force at the Jan. 29 Faculty Senate meeting.

According to the resolution, members of the task force are to assess what JMU is doing to protect staff and students from having their personal information exploited again, as well as open up communication between the university and the faculty. The task force will then report its findings back to the Faculty Senate.

“Part of this task force is to ask the people involved questions and find out if there’s a way to communicate more information to the faculty while still protecting the interests of the university,” McGraw said. “These are the people that are helping the faculty be more confident that the university is doing what they should be doing.”

On Feb. 3, McGraw sent out an email to all members of the Faculty Senate, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs Jerry Benson, and President Jon Alger announcing the task force. McGraw said members of the group were chosen for their expertise in computer security.

Tim Louwers, an accounting professor and member of the Faculty Senate, will chair the task force. Four other professors — computer science professor M. Hossain Heydari, intelligence analysis professor Edna Reid, justice studies professor Tammy Castle and computer science professor Michael Kirkpatrick — are also on the task force.

Louwers explained that the investigation will begin with a

meeting with JMU Information Technology tomorrow.

“Hopefully our questions will be answered,” Louwers said. “We can then put together a report that we can distribute to faculty and staff that were affected, maybe providing a little bit more detail depending on what we feel can be discussed without creating more weaknesses or holes that hackers may be able to exploit.”

In addition to the new task force being implemented, multiple security measures have been introduced in order to prevent this from happening again. Following the breach, additional account protections were installed and JMU employees and network users were required to change their e-ID account passwords.

Benson believes that this new task force will help highlight the precautions the university is taking to keep personal information safe.

“There’s two things [the task force] will be looking at. [They will be investigating] a little bit more into what did happen, but also what kind of protections we do have currently,” Benson said. “I think they’ll learn what lengths [the university] is going in order to protect this sensitive information.”

McGraw stressed that the task force is only evaluating and researching the way JMU is handling the situation, not doing the technical computer security work. He added that the original resolution states members of the task force understand that once they report back to the Faculty Senate with their findings, their work is done, and the group will likely disband.

However, McGraw thinks it’s unrealistic to say that a security

breach will never happen again, and that it’s important for the JMU community to not point fingers right away about who’s responsible for the breach.

“Security breaches like this are inevitable because this is the world we live in now,” McGraw said. “I hope people don’t have in mind that our goal here is to make sure this never happens again, because that’s unrealistic.”

He mentioned the much more recent incident involving Anthem, the health insurance provider for all JMU employees and many state employees. Last week, the company announced that it had also been hacked, and millions of records containing individuals’ names, birthdates, social security numbers, home addresses, health plan identification numbers, email addresses and home phone numbers were accessed.

Virginia’s Department of Human Resource Management notified state employees of the incident last Friday. McGraw speculates that whatever information was accessed during the JMU hack could have possibly been accessed again during this latest breach.

Despite this, McGraw said that the task force is to focus on JMU only.

“It [the Anthem breach] didn’t happen at JMU, it happened in Richmond, so it’s computers that are out of our university’s control,” he said. “As a Faculty Senate we’re here to question what JMU is doing, but we don’t really have a role to do that at the state level.”

**CONTACT** Jessica Newman and IJ Chan at breezejmu@gmail.com.

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ADMISSIONS

Applications to JMU have nearly doubled in 12 years

from front

in-state applicants, and between 9,000 and 10,000 were out-of-state applicants. Twelve years ago, JMU saw between 13,000 and 14,000 applications. Walsh attributes this increase in applications to student satisfaction and overall university reputation.

Emily Richard, a freshman psychology major, agrees with Walsh.

“I realized JMU was the school for me when I was on my first tour and I saw the beautiful buildings and the Quad. It was the only school I could really picture myself at,” Richard said.

Richard was No. 15 in her class at Kennett High School in New Hampshire, and was accepted early to JMU last year.

As for the application process, the “readers,” or application reviewers, and the admissions committees started reviewing applications at the end of September and the committees will finish around March 10, according to Walsh.

Every application is read by one of 13 to 15 readers, and then the applications go to the admissions committees.

“Most decisions are made by the reader and the committees. We have very strict guidelines for the readers and the committees, so we want to be fair and consistent. You can’t have one committee look at 24,000 apps,” Walsh said.

Walsh is called in to look at the out-of-the-ordinary applications, such as a student who went to four different high schools, a male student applying to a major dominated by females such as nursing or elementary education or a female student applying to a male-dominated major, such as physics.

“What we really strive to be is as fair and as equivocal as possible when we review 24,000 apps,” Walsh said, “Our application process is pretty straightforward. We tell students that we look at the following: we look at your curriculum, we look at your grades, test scores and we look at your essays, your extra-curricular activities and reference.”

Even though Wimette has a 3.82 GPA and Richard had a 4.05 GPA, a student’s GPA and Facebook page are two things that JMU doesn’t look at.

“We don’t look at GPA because in some school districts, a 4.0 puts you at the 50th percentile,” Walsh said. “Which, at some schools, a 4.0 puts you in the top 10 percent, so that’s why we don’t look at GPA anymore.”

Walsh believes JMU stopped considering GPA in the 1990s.

According to the admissions office, there isn’t a cut off regarding SAT and ACT scores. A combined SAT score of between 1180 and 1270 for the critical reading and mathematical sections were the mid-50 percent range for students admitted into JMU for this past fall. For the ACT’s composite score, the mid-50 percent



DANIEL STEIN/THE BREEZE

Every application received by the admissions office is read by 13 to 15 individuals who look at certain criteria when considering an applicant for admission. GPA isn’t taken into consideration, but the university looks at course curriculum, grades, test scores, essays and extra-curricular activities.

range was between 26 and 28.

Among the six elements JMU considers in an admission decision, the difficulty and performance on curriculum is most important, according to Walsh.

Walsh emphasized the importance of curriculum, regardless of whether a high school student took numerous Advanced Placement (AP) courses or none at all.

“The key part is whether you come from a small, rural high school or a large, suburban high school, you’ve taken what is considered to be an above average curriculum for your school. You are used to pushing yourself,” Walsh said. “You are used to going a little bit above and beyond. After that, the common element is basically students we admit are ‘A-B’ students.”

Walsh also stressed the importance of the essay portion of the application, a 250-word personal statement of your choice.

“Essays need to show a commitment and a passion and things like that. So it’s not so much a secret way to figure out how an application stands out,” Walsh said. “[In] the essay for example, you tell us what you want to tell us. So I tell

a student, if you got straight A’s, don’t tell me in your essay that you got straight A’s — I can tell it from your transcript. Tell me what makes you [that], in a sense, show us what you’re about.”

With 24,000 applications coming in, the undergraduate admissions office tries to admit qualified students who would be a good fit for JMU, but it can’t admit everyone, and will often defer an applicant.

“We admit about 57 percent of our applicants,” Walsh said, “We deny, or are not able to admit, a sizeable number of well-qualified students.”

If an applicant is well-qualified, but there’s simply not enough space available in the early action application pool, a student may be deferred to regular decision, and their application will be reviewed again before the regular decision applicants.

According to Walsh, about one-third of applicants deferred from early action are admitted with regular decision in order to be sure these students are as qualified as any admitted student.

JMU has an 82 percent graduation rate and Walsh believes that the university’s biggest strength is its students and academic programs.

Because of this, Walsh and his admissions staff do everything they can to bring prospective students in contact with the academic and the student life side of JMU.

JMU admits from all parts of the state, as well as out of state, and monitors student progress very closely, especially within the first year. The university also hosts 425 international and foreign-born students from 75 countries, including the United Kingdom, China, India, Vietnam and Korea.

According to Walsh, students are admitted no matter what area they come from. He even mentions that some of the best performing students oftentimes come from schools in less populated and well-funded areas.

“We looked at the average JMU GPA after the freshman year by high school. Some of the top [high] schools came from very rural areas,” Walsh said. “So, this type of research shows that we are admitting, regardless of where a student is from, that they do well and have more than a reasonable chance of graduating.”

CONTACT Caroline Brandt at [brandtcw@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:brandtcw@dukes.jmu.edu).

FINES

More food expected to be collected by the end of the week

from page 3

Debbie McDonough, the branch manager at the Page Public Library, estimates that about a dozen food items have been donated thus far. She expects to see more by the end of the week because last year, her library, combined with the Shenandoah Community Library, was able to give 112 pounds of canned goods to the Page One food bank.

So, how much are other branches contributing?

Bly Brown, the branch manager at the North River Library in Bridgewater, estimates that nearly two dozen cans of food have already been donated at her branch. Last year, North River was able to donate 179 pounds of canned food to the Bridgewater Inter-Church Food Pantry.

Barbara Andes, the branch manager at Village Library in Broadway, is pleased with the number of items that have already been donated this week.

“We have quite a lot of stuff at this point,” she said, estimating between 75 and 100 items. Last year, her library sent 74 pounds of donated goods to the Daily Bread Food Pantry in Broadway, Virginia.

Overall, with Harrisonburg city, Rockingham and Page County libraries combined, the MRL’s Food For Fines drive collected nearly 1,200 pounds of donated food last year.

For this year, though, Griffith says that it’s not too late to donate.

“[We] may have some students with overdue books and perhaps they would take advantage of this,” she said.

CONTACT Sam Baars at [breezenews@gmail.com](mailto:breezenews@gmail.com).

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NAHLA ABOUTABL | respect the riot

# UNC shootings highlight religious injustice



It's not often that the media reports positivity, but it seems that one cannot wake up nowadays without stomach-wrenching news. On Tuesday, three Muslim students — Deah Barakat, his wife Yusor Mohammad and her sister Razan Mohamed Abu-Salha — were shot and killed near the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The alleged perpetrator, Craig Hicks, is a white anti-theist who previously posted anti-religious content on his Facebook page. The media's take on the shooting? Well, I was first informed of this incident on Twitter, although I regularly check the news several times a day. Not only that, but when I went to confirm if this was actually true, at first it wasn't that easy to find a headlining article. That is, until our beloved media found a reason other than Islamophobia to blame the shooting on: a parking dispute.

The parking dispute narrative is being headlined as the main cause of the attack,

though a father of one of the students has put out a statement saying that the shooter had harassed his daughters and his son-in-law on multiple occasions before, because of their religion.

For a minute, I want you to imagine if the roles were reversed. If those three Muslim students broke into the white man's house and shot him in the head to his death, it would've without a doubt headlined as something along the lines of religiously fueled extremism. The media would be throwing out terms like "home-grown terrorism" and "Islamic extremism" left and right, not to mention that there will be questions whether the Muslim perpetrators were somehow connected to a terrorist organization overseas.

It would be especially obvious that the shooting was an act of extremism if the shooters had previously posted anti-American sentiment on their Facebook profiles.

It's insulting to me and many Muslims

how unimportant our lives have become in America and how our rights as citizens and even just as humans are being ignored. We're unjustly murdered by American drones and military operations targeting terrorists, we're discriminated against by our communities and our media and we're stripped of our individual identities.

Islamophobia thrives without check on our news outlets, where we're seen as the enemy and our death isn't something to grieve. We're all clumped in one group, even though the majority of us believe terrorism to be inherently and ideologically un-Islamic and we are told to apologize for every crime a Muslim commits. Our religion and our identities only come into play when we are the ones holding the gun, not the ones being shot at.

So it doesn't come as a surprise to me when a white man kills three Muslim students, two of whom were newlyweds. Our media's

fear mongering and plain ignorance when reporting on Muslims and events that take place in the Middle East and around the world have resulted in a rise of Islamophobia. Those who don't know any better listen to news anchors as if, for some reason, they believe they're experts on a culture and religion they actually know little to nothing about. Media bashing of Muslims has been an easy way to get hits and rile up national support for a supposed war on terror that has been going on for 14 years and has no sign of ending.

Rupert Murdoch had previously asked Muslims to collectively apologize to the world for the Charlie Hebdo attacks as if somehow we had all caused the atrocity. In the spirit of collective punishment, I would like to ask the American media to apologize to me and Muslims worldwide for the racism they fuel against Islam, causing Muslims to be discriminated against and killed here and elsewhere in the world.

Nahla Aboutabl is a junior political science and international affairs double major. Contact Nahla at [aboutanm@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:aboutanm@dukes.jmu.edu).

ASHLEIGH BALSAMO | sophisticated sass

# You dropped a (feminist) bomb on me

Katy Perry and President Obama use the Grammys as an opportunity to raise awareness about domestic violence and rape



Katy Perry attends the 2015 Grammy's red carpet.



in Beyoncé's defense.

This was until President Barack Obama interrupted the entertainment to hit America with a serious message about rape and domestic violence. He called on musicians and fans to take action and reminded us that, "Together, we can change our culture for the better by ending violence against women and girls," and, "It's on us to create a culture where violence isn't tolerated [and] survivors are supported."

Obama's announcement was just the beginning — afterward, Katy Perry invited domestic violence survivor and activist Brooke Axtell to join her on stage with a message about the realities of domestic abuse and how she was able to overcome it.

"Authentic love does not devalue another human being," resonated with everyone as they listened to Axtell recount the story of her personal struggles.

During her speech, she pointed out that one out of four women in the United States will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.

The majority of this year's Grammy Awards were nothing short of predictable — countless performances I wish I could have fast-forwarded through, someone getting played off the stage after winning an award and Kanye jumping on stage

One out of four. Just let that sink in for a minute.

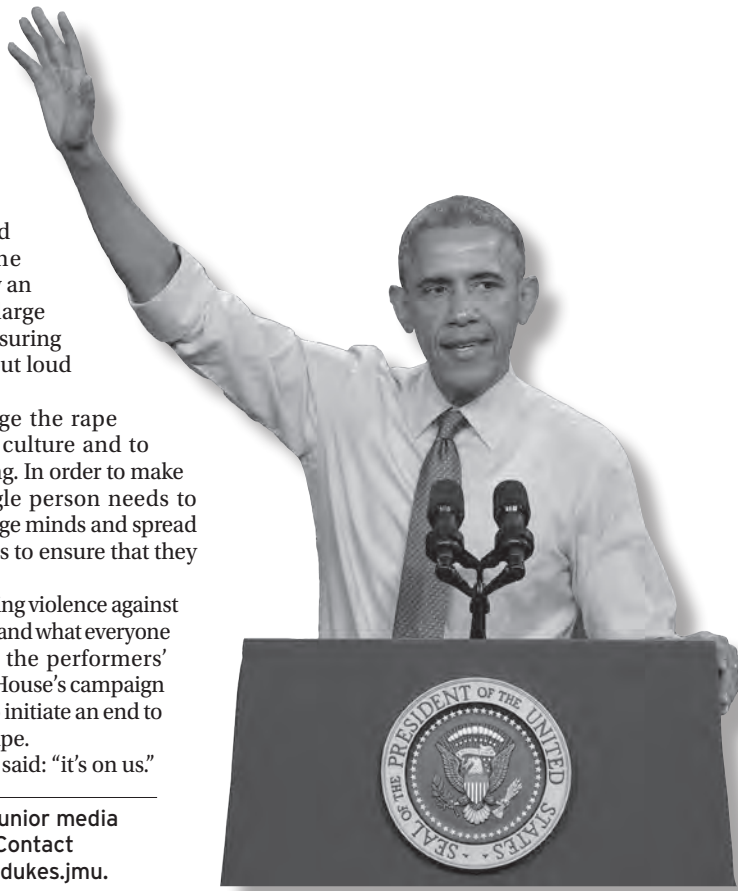
What President Obama, Perry and Axtell have done to raise awareness about the severity of domestic abuse is incredible and definitely a step in the right direction. They saw an opportunity to reach a large audience and took it, ensuring that this message rang out loud and clear.

It's up to us to change the rape and domestic violence culture and to prevent it from happening. In order to make a difference, every single person needs to make it a priority to change minds and spread awareness of these issues to ensure that they stop for good.

The statistics surrounding violence against women are unacceptable and what everyone should take away from the performers' messages and the White House's campaign is that it's a group effort to initiate an end to domestic violence and rape.

Like President Obama said: "it's on us."

Ashleigh Balsamo is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Ashleigh at [balsamap@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:balsamap@dukes.jmu.edu).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

President Obama gave a recorded speech at the Grammys, which highlighted the "It's On Us" campaign to end domestic and sexual assault.

## DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth.

Submit Darts & Pats at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org)

A **"way-to-create-a-barrier-to-accessibility"** dart to whoever "borrowed" the extension cord from HHS 1301.  
*From a disappointed disability advocate.*

A **"lights-out"** pat to the Harrisonburg bus driver who pulled up beside me on campus at a light to let me know that one of my brake lights was out.  
*From a grateful student who got the light fixed immediately afterward, fortunately before being pulled over again.*

A **"God-bless-you"** pat to whoever left the quarter on the first floor of the Grace Street parking deck that I used to pay for a spot.  
*From a junior who always loves free parking.*

A **"thank-you-for-your-time-on-a-quiet-uncrowded-Tuesday-night"** dart to Madison Grill.  
*From the couple with reservations who waited 10 minutes to be seated, spent 25 minutes without being acknowledged at all and left in 35 minutes.*

## Editorial Policies

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Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

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*"To the press alone, chequered 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, 1800



KRISTEN BAKER | duking it out

# The future is now (for buying textbooks, anyway)

Amazon debuts store at Purdue University, and other schools should follow suit




Google may be well on its way to taking over the world, but Amazon, the company that already dominates online retail across the planet, is about to take over retailers both on and offline. It's doing so by taking its virtual sales local, to some of its biggest buyers — college students. Last week in West Lafayette, Indiana, Amazon's first-ever campus drop-off and pickup store opened its doors at Purdue University. With the implementation of [purdue.amazon.com](http://purdue.amazon.com), students can order anything online, select Amazon@Purdue as the shipping location and then pick it up in the store when it arrives, from either an Amazon employee at the desk or a self-serve locker. What's even more exciting is that students with Amazon Student accounts — their offer providing free two-day shipping — won't have to wait long for their items to arrive because the Purdue Amazon store offers free one-day shipping for purchases straight to the store. The Purdue Amazon store isn't limited to school supplies; the same seemingly endless assortment of products it has online — electronics, apparel, furniture, food, toys, jewelry — is 100 percent attainable through the store. Amazon itself began as an online bookseller back in 1994. If it continues to expand on college campuses, it may end up as the biggest bookstore retailer yet, because there's one thing that all college students are forced to buy: textbooks. According to The Atlantic, the price of college textbooks has "shot up faster than health care, home prices, and, of course, inflation" since 1978. The U.S. Public Interest Research Group reported that 65 percent of college



students have decided against buying a textbook because of its high price at some point and 94 percent of those who chose not to buy the expensive book then worried that doing this would hurt their grades in their courses. A textbook, especially its price, shouldn't be the determining factor in a student's success. Nicole Allen, a program director for the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, an alliance of resource libraries, said that publishers have been able to drive up textbook prices and still make revenue because students "have to buy whatever textbook they've been assigned." The easiest, quickest way to get books is through the campus bookstore, however, it's certainly not the cheapest. That's where the potential of Amazon campus stores come into play. Amazon offers textbooks, both new and used, at a much lower price than campus or nationwide bookstores. When your professor gives you a reading assignment in a textbook the second day of class, you can't wait two weeks or more for your books to ship without your grade taking a hit. Amazon stores with free one-day store pickup shipping on college campuses could change that. According to the Government Accountability Office, the price of new textbooks has been rising about 6 percent each year. However, if more Amazon stores begin popping up on campuses nationwide, competitors may be forced to lower their prices and these climbing costs could finally take a step down. Wouldn't it be nice to buy a required paperback book with a small production cost of \$10 at a reasonable price?

Kristen Baker is a senior media arts and design major. Contact Kristen at [bakerk1@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:bakerk1@dukes.jmu.edu).

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BRIANA ELLISON | off topic

# Keep rights relevant

Social justice causes don't end with high profile cases



This year is shaping up to be a momentous year of staggering proportions. Many of the social movements that found stride in 2014 will reach their tipping point by the end of the year. This includes the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) equality movement, the new women's/feminist movement and a slight revival of civil rights. Of course, the last one is also a culmination of the previous two.

It should be clear that, no matter your stance on these issues, they're important to our societal well-being. More important, however, is how we're going to keep these issues relevant in the long term. This is important, as it's often relevancy that allows a movement or issue to make the most significant strides toward its goals. Our present techniques for doing so have changed drastically from our predecessors, especially since we now have a tendency to rely on technology to do our bidding.

Akin with past issues, each of today's movements have a number of sub-movements to support them. LGBTQ equality has the Movement Advancement Project (MAP) and the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). These have been absolutely crucial in driving LGBT awareness, while also tracking the progress of LGBTQ rights and marriage equality over the past few years. The Gender Equality movement has #LikeAGirl and HeforShe. The latter is fronted by actress and humanitarian Emma Watson, who has given two rousing and inspiring speeches to the United Nations.

The point about these movements — besides the fact that they have appropriately and admirably upheld and explained their purpose — is how they've done so. They've successfully advertised their beliefs and put themselves on the map by being active rather than passive. It's this push, this desire to go out and do something, that has allowed major social issues and their accompanying movements to be profitable.

And it's also this desire that, apparently, has passed a lot of us by. This objective is far-fetched if we make no active effort to further

them, and, again, do something. I'm afraid that these issues will pass into irrelevancy, no matter the scale or social impact. It would be very typical of our society to move on to the next subject to grab our attention.

We have to be active. We have to support these social issues and do so correctly. This also includes starting conversations about issues we hold dear. We all know that obsessively discussing an issue is a surefire way to get people talking. If people are talking about a subject, then it's on their mind and they will eventually want to do something about it. Luckily, we have a multitude of outlets through which we can do this.

However, it's important to clear up the unclear. These movements have to convey their purpose in concise a manner. Unfortunately, there are a multitude of misconceptions attached to each of these movements, and critics immediately exploit them. Some like to point out shortcomings in marriage equality. The largest misconception is attached to the new feminist movement. The definition of what a feminist is has been horribly misconstrued and attacked by those who give in to this shortcoming.

If we are able to resolve these illusions, the struggles we're enduring will be slightly relieved. The biggest obstacles we face are from our own ignorance; it's the opposite, knowledge, which can help us immensely. It's too easy for issues to be doused by overbearing criticism and misunderstanding. The opposite is what furthers movements and keeps them relevant.

The Civil Rights era didn't end after the Brown v. Board of Education decision, or the March on Washington. It took an ongoing, decades-long battle to get the point across. The U.S. Supreme Court's upcoming decision on marriage equality and the spotlight on women's rights won't be the end of the LGBT equality and feminist movements, respectively; they'll be the beginning. Equality is a struggle. The only way to overcome struggle is through sacrifice and steadfast dedication. It won't be easy or pleasant, but in the end it will definitely be worth it.

Briana Ellison is a sophomore media arts and design major. Contact Briana at [ellisobr@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:ellisobr@dukes.jmu.edu).

MARTA VUCCI | The Breeze

# NETFLIX

## recommendation of the week

TV: "The Magic School Bus"  
(1994-1997)  
4 Seasons (all on Netflix)

I've never liked science. As a child, there was only one woman who could successfully make me sit still and soak up a 30-minute science lesson. But you might know her better as the eccentric teacher with wild orange hair and an out-of-this-world wardrobe.

Yes, the one and only Ms. Frizzle from "The Magic School Bus" TV series was essential to most, if not all, of the scientific knowledge I have today. Now, you too can expand your educational experience by watching all four seasons of the show on Netflix.

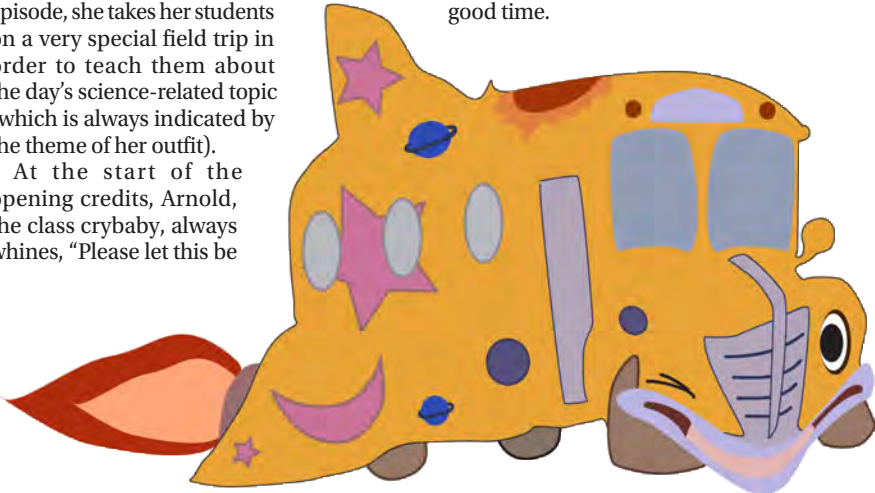
I'm assuming that most of you know what I'm talking about, but for those of you who don't (I'm sorry for you), "The Magic School Bus" is an animated series adapted from the Scholastic book series that follows the zany adventures of Ms. Frizzle and her eight-student class. In every episode, she takes her students on a very special field trip in order to teach them about the day's science-related topic (which is always indicated by the theme of her outfit).

At the start of the opening credits, Arnold, the class crybaby, always whines, "Please let this be

a normal field trip."

It never is. Ms. Frizzle uses her magic school bus to transport and transform her students, and yes, I do mean transform. Her antics range from morphing them into reptiles in order to teach the difference between hot and cold-blooded, to shrinking a bus full of them and entering a sick student's body so they can see how he fights off the flu.

It sounds pretty insane and it is. But, as a kid, it was the coolest thing ever and that hasn't changed. I've always been a fan — I read the books, I played the computer games, I learned stuff about science and it was my absolute favorite. I don't know how many of you enjoy revisiting childhood shows, but this is one that I would definitely recommend for anyone looking for some '90s nostalgia. Or anyone who's stoned and looking for a good time.



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

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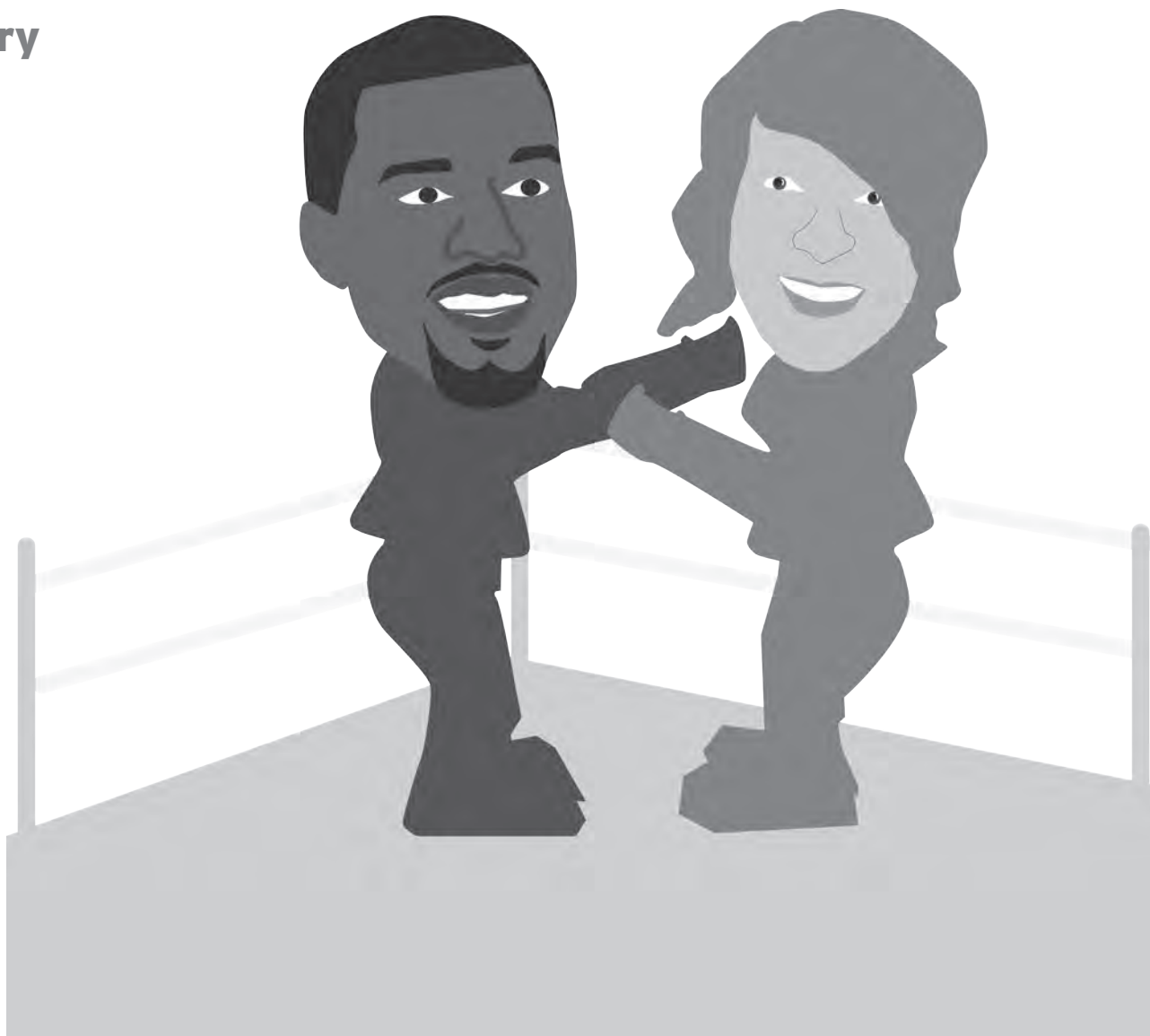
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## commentary



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

## WHEN FLAWLESS ISN'T ENOUGH

While Beyoncé should have won Album of the Year, Beck has handled the criticism well

By LAUREN HUNT | THE BREEZE

Usually when you Google the name of an artist, album and a year, your first hit will be the Wikipedia page for the particular album. Yet if you Google “Beck album 2015,” you get 13 solid pages of various news sources commenting on the conflict between Beck and Kanye or just the fact that Beck somehow managed to snag album of the year (and yes, I waded through 13 pages of those articles for that number).

If you couldn’t tell by the tone of my first paragraph: I agree with Kanye.

Don’t get me wrong, Beck was super relevant in the mid-90s. He had several albums that sold millions upon millions of copies in the United States (“Mellow Gold:” 2.3 million copies, “Odelay:” 4.1 million copies, “Guero:” 2 million copies — just to name a few). But let me stress the word “was.” Those albums were released between ’94 and ’05 and — if I’m not mistaken — it’s 2015.

Let me make this one comparison: Beck’s

Grammy-winning album, “Morning Phase” has sold 300,000 copies in the U.S. Beyoncé’s Grammy-nominated album, “Beyoncé,” sold one million digital copies in the first week. More than 800,000 copies of the album sold worldwide in the first three days.

Not to mention it just kind of appeared on iTunes with no promotion whatsoever.

All I’m saying is, after looking at just the numbers, how could Beyoncé not win? Numbers aside, it was a groundbreaking album. There’s a music video to accompany every song. Many of the videos challenge societal standards of beauty and feminism, which isn’t yet very prevalent in contemporary music.

I’m not saying that “Morning Phase” is a bad album. I’m just saying that, when compared to “Beyoncé” (or Sam Smith’s “In the Lonely Hour,” which had plenty of steals during the night, for that matter), is it really the album of the year? I think it’s funny that Kanye alluded to his

infamous interruption stunt when Taylor Swift beat Beyoncé in 2009 (although I’m glad he didn’t carry through with it. It was rude in 2009 and it would be rude now). And I agree with Kanye that “‘Beyoncé’ is monumental music.”

Though, in Beck’s defense and disagreement with Kanye, I don’t think Beck should have given his award to Beyoncé. What’s done is done and what’s won is won. According to the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, Beck won fair and square (thankfully this is America and I don’t have to agree with the Academy).

He’s taken criticism (like mine) it in such great strides, even admitting that he thought Beyoncé was going to win and complimenting Kanye on the music he’s put out in recent years. He’s a sweetheart and his album was fine, just not album-of-the-year-compared-to-“Beyoncé” fine.

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## WORD | Event to combine student performances with music and poetry

## from front

“When we go onstage, that’s our brand: we turn their stories into performances onstage,” Oslin said.

Sean Townsend, a senior English major and current co-president of Word is Born, performed a duet poem with Dolan during his sophomore year for the first Love Me, Love Me Not jam.

“A couple years ago, the club just wanted to have a big poetry jam, and we figured with Valentine’s Day, love and poetry go hand in hand,” Townsend said. “We’ve just done it every year since.”

According to Scott Oslin, a senior writing, rhetoric and technical communication major and the club’s other co-president, the poetry jam has a more organized structure than an open mic night but it also lacks the competitive aspect of a poetry slam, two other types of events that Word is Born performs at. Love Me, Love Me Not will have two different music performances followed by a showcase where each poet performs a five to six minute set.

“[The performers are] going to have a space to themselves,” Oslin said. “... It’s them and the microphone and they’re going to get the chance to speak their piece.”

Dolan was vice president of Word is Born when she and the president at the time created the first Love Me, Love Me Not jam. It is tradition to invite the previous president to return and host the event. As emcee, she will introduce each act and talk about the club’s main purpose.

Dolan plans on showcasing the work that members have worked on all year and promoting the club so that new members can join.

As an alumna, Dolan has fond memories of JMU and the organization she helped grow. When she first joined, the club had five to seven regular members; when she left, it had 10 to 15.

“In all honesty I don’t know if I could’ve done what I had done without it,” Dolan said. “I started performing after I joined the club ... I got better and better every time I stepped onstage and it was just ... my fondest memories from college are from Word Is Born [on] Wednesday night meetings.”

Audiences can expect a wide variety of performances and poems — there are many aspects of love that the performers will discuss.

“You can bring your friends, your enemies, your lovers, anyone,” Oslin said. “It’s a great poetry jam ... We want everyone to come break their hearts with us; to come live in our stories and

get to experience what we’ve experienced through our poetry and our creative work.”

Oslin himself will perform three poems: two about an ex-boyfriend and one about new love.

“I don’t want to say I’m a very bitter, sarcastic writer but I have a very powerful presence on stage,” Oslin said.

Townsend will also perform; he has two poems from a book he’s been working on: “In Something” and “Her Nude.”

“They’re both love poems with great imagery,” Townsend said.

It’s Evan Duffy’s very first time performing at a Word Is Born event. The junior media arts and design major got involved with the club this year after a friend encouraged him to come to one of the club’s meetings, which lead him to performing at Taylor Down Under’s weekly open mic nights alongside Townsend.

“I’m excited but I’ve also done a ton of open mics with [Townsend], so I don’t think I’m too nervous,” Duffy said. “I know the stage and audiences and all that ... [Spoken word is] a great form to express yourself. You can really say anything and there’s maybe not great turn-outs but it’s a great college environment; everyone’s pretty friendly and accepting.”

TDU, where the jam is located, is the usual space for all of Word is Born’s performances. With its purple couches and handpainted chairs, the homey vibe of the lounge is an ideal place for sharing poetry.

“The space has a really underground feel to it,” Oslin said. “It feels like a space where anything can be said as long as you have the people who are going to say it. It feels like the space is there for students to get on stage and speak their mind.”

Planning for Love Me, Love Me Not starts in November before Thanksgiving break. Since the club creates all of its own material and advertising, it takes a lot of dedication to put everything together.

“We have to work constantly, especially with new members, on their performance and their level of performance before the actual jam, because ideally we’d like all performers to have their poems memorized,” Dolan said. “It’s just a level of professionalism we try to uphold in an event like this. So it’s a lot of planning, definitely months and months of planning.”

The third annual Love Me, Love Me Not poetry jam is tonight from 7 to 9 p.m. in TDU. Word is Born meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Keezel 303.

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ERIN WILLIAMS / THE BREEZE

Sean Townsend, a senior English major and Word is Born co-president, performs poetry at an open mic night in Taylor Down Under on Tuesday.



DESIGNING DOWNTOWN

# She's a foodie

Senior graphic design major Sarah Hade creates logo for new downtown gelato shop



DANIEL STEIN / THE BREEZE

Senior graphic design major Sarah Hade poses next to her favorite chalkboard design outside Bella Luna, a downtown pizzeria she works at. Each week, she puts a new face on the board with chalk markers.

By ROBYN SMITH  
The Breeze

Sarah Hade's favorite part of being a server at Bella Luna is decorating the chalkboards every week, especially posting all of her creations on Instagram @sarahhade. The senior graphic design major's boss at the downtown pizzeria has noticed her artistic talent, and now, she's designing the new logo for Bella Luna's upcoming gelato shop. She joined the downtown community wholeheartedly with an internship at Larkin Arts, a downtown art shop. We grabbed some pizza with her recently and learned what inspires her to create.

What do you do with graphic design?

... I've gotten involved in the downtown community through Larkin Arts. I started interning there during the summer, starting around May, helping with their graphic design under Trip Madison ... I learned so much more working with [Larkin Arts] about the programs I use in graphic design, like Adobe Creative Suite, than I ever learned in my classes. So that was very interesting. Classes are more theory-based and they teach you what looks good but they never give you tutorials or show you the ins and outs of the programs, so that really opened a lot of doors for me. I started working here [at Bella Luna]. I guess they figured I was artistically inclined, so they asked me to do their chalk signs and it kind of lead from there. Then I was asked to do the gelato logo for Bella Gelato opening up in March. It's really opened up a lot of doors, working downtown.

What made you get into graphic design?

I always knew when things bothered me before, like when I was looking at signs. If it wasn't quite right, I knew. It just didn't sit right with me ... I've always loved working with fonts. It's always kind of excited me, seeing new fonts. Honestly, I just came into JMU as a bio major. I think I had this tiny revelation after my first semester at JMU — I loved my bio classes and did well in them but I don't think that, looking into my future, it was going to make me happy. I always did art, so I changed my major to studio art. From there, I realized that graphic design was an actual job. I started looking at design, pay more attention to it and decided to apply for the program.

What do you love about it?

I think the difference between art and design is, you can have your art, but you're only going to have the people interested come look at it, whereas design is absolutely everywhere, to the point where some people don't even know a designer's touched a certain object. Even in your cream soda bottle. A graphic designer spent a lot of time on it. I think it's really interesting that these infiltrate every day, into our everyday lives. I just wanted to be a part of that.

What was your internship like?

It was good. It was very on-call, sort of. I live downtown, and if they needed me to go pick up show posters or needed me to work on specific poster, I'd just come work at the [Art-ful] Dodger or Larkin. It'd be a back and forth type thing, where I'd send files to [Madison] and he'd fix them and send them back to me. It was a really good working relationship and learning how business worked and sending things off to the printers and making sure colors turn out right — the hands on experience was really valuable.

What's your goal for the Bella Gelato logo?

[The owner] was really the driving factor in the design concept. He knew exactly what he wanted. He really wanted the fist with the gelato cone in its hand, similar to Russian constructivist posters. This is every man's gelato ... So I took that and ran with it, gave him a few different options with the fist and the cone and we're narrowing in on a final project that'll be on the signage and in the store and on T-shirts.

If you could give an aspiring graphic designer a piece of advice, what would it be?

Patience and drive. I think those work really well together because you have to have good drive to produce a lot of work and have the patience to not get discouraged when you fail, and the patience to work out the little kinks. I sometimes find myself moving one thing each pixel at a time. Seeing what looks good, stepping back and making little, tiny changes. That's what makes the quality of your work in the end.

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MikeTV | THE BREEZE

# Interrupting Kate Upton

Popular app Trivia Crack sparks infamous ad frenzy

The sad musical decrescendo signals that my chance at victory has faded away. I thought I'd be saved from sports after finishing high school gym class, but I keep getting bombarded with obscure questions about the history of the National Hockey League. No, I'm not taking GSPORTS (a GenEd that I just made up), but I might as well be, considering my limited knowledge in that area.

Thankfully I'm aware of my lack of sports knowledge, not because of a poor grade in a class, but because, with a whopping 60 percent, it's my worst category in the ridiculously addictive app Trivia Crack.

A rainbow wheel with six categories: history, art, entertainment, sports, science and geography, is the physical setup for this simple app. You spin, land on a category, and answer a question in that category. You keep answering questions correctly to earn characters, but once you miss a question your opponents get a shot at answering as many as they can.

The game turns friends into foes as you battle for bragging rights to see who knows the most trivial nonsense. And if your friends are already so over this app that they don't want to play you, there's a solution: play with strangers! This way there's no awkward tension when you see your friend in D-Hall and wonder how they have enough time to eat, but not enough time to play you back.

If you get a question wrong, you lose your turn and have to wait for your opponent to play back — usually within the socially acceptable 20 minutes — but the agonizing wait isn't even close to the struggle of getting a question wrong.

Once you've submitted the incorrect answer, probably on a sports question if you're me, you're sentenced to the purest form of hell, another ad for the Kate Upton-led app "Game of War." I've searched far and wide for another commercial option in this app, but it was a fruitless endeavor.

Now there's nothing wrong with an ad featuring Kate Upton, she's very nice to look at, but it loses its luster after the first 4,000 times. The "Rent" song "525,600 Minutes" isn't how you measure a non-leap year; it's actually the amount of time you're subjected to this obnoxious ad.

Kate Upton aside, I do have primarily warm feelings toward Trivia Crack.

The highly underrated challenge option is more fun than the traditional gameplay. A challenge has you answer 12 questions in six minutes in a set period of time against either nine random opponents or a group of friends. The rapid nature of this option makes it even more intense, and that precious moment when you crush nine people you've never met is a glowing testament to how far you've come and how much actual work you haven't accomplished.

The game turns friends into foes as you battle for bragging rights to see who knows the most trivial nonsense.

I like that the developers found a way to make education fun. Sure, entertainment and sports may not be considered education, but the other four categories definitely are.

This app makes people get more acquainted with facts that they don't come into contact with. I certainly know more about chemistry than I did before downloading this app. Intelligence can be fun and Trivia Crack proves that.

Now if you'll excuse me, I must go throw my phone into a brick wall because Kate Upton's face is haunting me again.

Mike Dolzer is a freshman writing, rhetoric and technical communication and media arts and design double major. Contact Mike at dolzermj@dukes.jmu.edu.

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# 2015

## Baseball Softball

### Preview

## SOFTBALL

## PUSHING THE LIMIT

After one of the best seasons in program history, the Dukes are looking for more

By **RICHIE BOZEK**  
The Breeze

It's that time of year again, when yellow softballs and cheers from the dugouts make a return to Eagle Field at Veterans Memorial Park.

Following a record-breaking 2014 campaign and unanimous preseason selection to win the Colonial Athletic Association championship again this year, JMU softball is geared up for the first pitch of the 2015 season this weekend in Jacksonville, Florida.

Last season the Dukes finished with a 45-15 overall record, setting school records for both most wins and fewest losses in a season. They were crowned regular season CAA champions for the first time in program history and secured the CAA Championship trophy in the postseason for the second time in history.

The Dukes earned a spot in the 2014 NCAA tournament where they were eliminated in the regionals round.

Despite an impressive last season, JMU looks to add more to its resume this year.

"We got to where we wanted,

but we want to go further," junior pitcher Jailyn Ford said. "I think we can use that as motivation."

The way the schedule reads, the Dukes will have their work cut out for them. JMU is set to play 15 teams who also participated in the NCAA tournament last year, including the national runner-up and preseason No. 3-ranked, University of Alabama.

"To get to where you want to be, you have to play those teams," head coach Mickey Dean said. "As the conference gets better, and we want to grow our program, then our schedule has to reflect that."

To help prepare for the competitive schedule, the Dukes tried to put in the necessary work in the offseason.

The team worked on becoming stronger, not only physically in the weight room, but mentally as well.

"We were working out in the weight room all the time," Ford said. "We went heavy up until this past week. We're really trying to stay focused and use that to our advantage."

Communication on the field

see **SOFTBALL**, page 12



Sophomore Niki Prince, last year's CAA Rookie of the Year, is moving to the infield this season.

WATT SCHWACHENBERG / THE BREEZE

## BASEBALL

## 'The sum is greater than all its parts'

JMU looks to take a team-first approach to turn things around from last season

By **DREW FAGAN**  
The Breeze

It's 36 degrees on a Tuesday afternoon. The sound of baseballs popping off aluminum bats and the smell of infield clay on leather gloves permeate the air at Veterans Memorial Park. Players don sweats over their compression shorts and wear hoodies to cover their ears as needed. It's February and it's baseball season.

Players and coaches of the JMU men's baseball team don't seem fazed by the chance of catching a cold or the possibility of taking a stinging ball to the shin. They have more important things on their minds.

"A big thing is just team chemistry and believing in each other, and just playing good fundamental baseball," Kevin Husum, a senior outfielder who was selected to the Preseason All-Colonial Athletic Association Team, said.

The Dukes are coming off a 17-36 finish in 2014. They haven't had a winning season since 2011, but the squad is anticipating a successful year.

"I think just getting back to working as a group," redshirt junior shortstop and preseason All-CAA selection Chad Carroll said. "If we can get back to that really competitive, aggressive baseball mentality I think that we will have some serious success this year."

The team is led by veteran head coach Spanky McFarland. "Coach Mac," as his players call him, is entering his 18th and final season as head coach. He believes in a team-oriented approach to the game that consists of small-ball tactics and each player doing his part to win.

"Our little motto this year is 'the sum is greater than all its parts,'" McFarland said.

The Dukes are young, but see potential. The team's roster has a combined 21 freshmen and

sophomores out of the 38 total players listed.

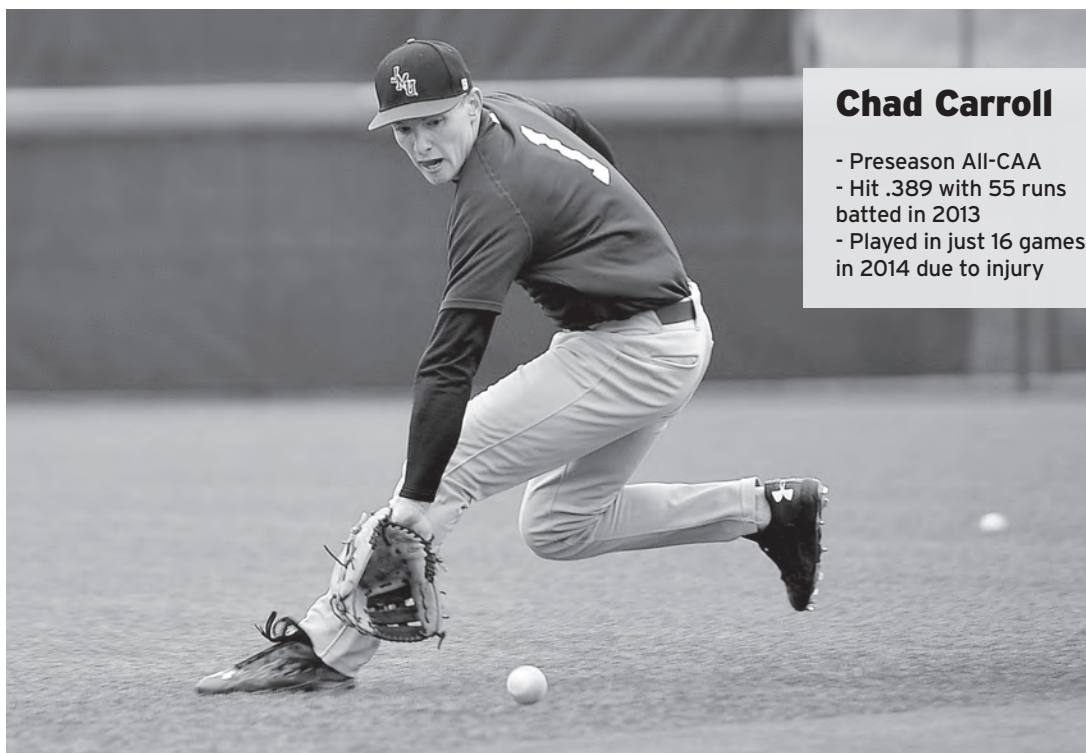
"With this incredible crop of new freshmen and new guys, it's an extremely solid foundation for this year and years to come," Carroll said.

However, developing potential takes work. As McFarland said, constructing a team is "easier said than done."

"If a guy could write a book about [team] chemistry, he'd make a million dollars," McFarland said. "You never know quite how that's gonna come back."

### Chad Carroll

- Preseason All-CAA
- Hit .389 with 55 runs batted in 2013
- Played in just 16 games in 2014 due to injury



SAM TAYLOR / THE BREEZE

Redshirt junior shortstop Chad Carroll fields a ground ball at Tuesday's practice. He said he believes that if JMU can get its "competitive, aggressive baseball mentality" back, the team will have success this season, which begins Friday.

much time thinking about.

"An old coach a long time ago told me, 'The only thing a [poll's] good for is holding up your barn,'" pitching coach Ted White said. "You go out and you compete at your best, that's really my only concern."

Competitiveness is the driving force the Dukes are taking into the season.

"A big thing this year is we're trying to make everything a competition," Husum said. "If you're not bringing your A-game every day, there's someone behind you trying to take your spot, but that can only help the team."

Composure is another trait the team wants to harness. McFarland believes a level head is a vital component to success on the baseball diamond.

"There's the inverted U," McFarland said. "You're not gonna play well if you're too jacked up, you're not gonna play well if you're not jacked up enough. You gotta try to find a way to stay up there in the middle."

He's carried and developed this wisdom throughout his coaching career, and it's something his players have picked up on.

"In the good times and bad times, he's always had something to say that's productive," Carroll said. "He keeps everyone accountable in a unique way, and it allows people to play the game without too much anxiety or pressure from their head coach."

The Dukes open their season Friday in North Carolina with games against the University of Buffalo and Gardner-Webb University. They'll then play Gardner-Webb again on Saturday before their home opener on Tuesday against Longwood University.

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SOFTBALL

# Double trouble

Conference-leading pitchers Jailyn Ford and Heather Kiefer return to the circle this season for JMU

By **GABRIELLE SMITH**  
*The Breeze*

Collecting all but one of 45 victories for the Dukes last season, softball’s dynamic duo returns for the 2015 season.

Senior pitcher Heather Kiefer and junior pitcher Jai-lynn Ford proved to be among some of the best, not only in the Colonial Athletic Association, but also in the country.

“We push each other all the time,” Kiefer said. “We’re at the same weight rack, so we’re always pushing each other in the weight room and in practice.”

Last year, Kiefer had a 2.04 ERA and 20-8 record in 38 appearances, including 28 starts. Ford had a 1.26 ERA and 24-7 record in 31 appearances, including 21 starts.

After the season, Kiefer was named Second Team All-CAA and earned a spot on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association First Team All-Region. Ford also racked up honors with First Team All-CAA, CAA Pitcher of the Year, CAA All-Tournament Team, NFCA First Team All-Region and became the first All-American in JMU program history.

“They’re very goal-oriented and goal-driven as well,” head coach Mickey Dean said. “They’re not just relying on their physical ability, it’s kind of the whole package.”

Ford, a left-hander, and Kiefer, a right-hander, complement each other well.

“If one team starts to get too comfortable with one of us then, we know the other can come in and will have our back,” Ford said.

Despite their different deliveries, pitches and speeds, the pair tend to learn from one another.



HOLLY WARFIELD / THE BREEZE

Junior left-hander Jai-lynn Ford (left) and senior right-hander Heather Kiefer recorded a 1.26 and 2.04 earned run average last season respectively.

“If I’m struggling with a pitch, I’m not afraid to go to Kiefer or either one of our younger pitchers just to try to get a different perspective ... or get feedback on what to do better,” Ford said.

Dean said the hard work and dedication of the pair during the offseason greatly contributes to their success.

“One of the things they focused on was getting stronger and increasing their velocity and endurance,” Dean said.

Kiefer said the team stayed in contact over winter break to encourage and motivate each other to keep up the hard work.

“Everybody was doing their workouts and lifting when they were supposed to [over the break],” Kiefer said. “A few of us even came back a little

early to work together and kind of make that break seem a little shorter.”

With family encouragement and support, Kiefer and Ford stayed consistent and true to their goals.

“My family is very supportive,” Ford said. “My brother, he is always willing to help me whether it’s in the weight room, catching for me, throwing, whatever I need in order to make me better.”

With 80 percent of the roster made up of underclassmen, Dean looks to his two pitchers for leadership on and off the field.

“It’s not just leadership, it’s how they carry themselves,” Dean said. “They carry themselves so well in the public, in their classroom[s] and they’re great teammates. If someone needs a

ride, they’re the first two people they call.”

Kiefer, in fact, is the only senior on the team and hopes to guide her fellow players throughout the season.

“We just want to use our experience and the leadership of all the seniors that have come before us ... to lead [the younger teammates] and keep them focused, keep them in on our team goals and just be good leaders for them,” Kiefer said.

As the team begins play this weekend in Jacksonville, Florida, all free time will cease to exist.

“It’s kind of hard in season [to do outside activities],” Ford said. “For me, I’m always tired, so I don’t really have time to do anything outside of softball and school.”

Kiefer backed that up.

“When we’re not at practice, we’re either eating, sleeping or doing schoolwork,” she said.

Nonetheless, the athletes are looking forward to a change of

scenery.

“It will be nice to play without Under Armour, to play in the sun,” Kiefer said. “It’s also really fun because a lot of our families travel, so it’s good family time.”

As Ford continues to perfect her curveball, and Kiefer her drop ball, the duo looks to be a thorn in the side of opponents for another season.

“The other team says ‘all right what are we going to focus on?’ It’s difficult because they have to focus on all of it,” Dean said. “If they have success off one pitcher, they won’t have success off the other.”

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BASEBALL

# 17 down, one to go

More than just a coach, Spanky McFarland enters his 18th and final season at the helm of JMU baseball

By **STEPHEN PROFFITT**  
*The Breeze*

With a Styrofoam cup of black coffee in his hand, he shut off the TV inside his Memorial Hall office and took a seat on his couch, lined by an embroidered baseball throw.

He removed his black and purple-brimmed JMU baseball cap, resting it atop his right knee, school letters staring back at him.

Amid a neat stack of Baseball America magazine issues, head coach Spanky McFarland was less than 72 hours away from his last opening day ever.

“I’ve always felt like the baseball field has been my classroom,” McFarland said. “I’ll have to find a new classroom.”

Tuesday, he stood above the black batting cage observing the tail end of a bitterly cold practice. Throwing hands were tucked in back pockets to avoid the cutting February Valley air.

“Whenever I talk about it, I begin to think about it more,” McFarland said.

This will be his 18th season with JMU, his 38th season head coaching and his 42nd college baseball season if you count his playing days at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

“Even in a weird way I’ll miss the confidant moments,” McFarland said. “When something’s going on in their lives and they come to me for help. It’s a big responsibility to take on, but I like those moments. I like to feel like I can help. I mean, I’m not going to miss the weather, the bus trips, the paperwork.”

Assistant coach Ted White said the first line he tells anyone is that if you judge any coach by wins or losses, especially McFarland, you’re missing the full impact he’s made.

“I’ve been very fortunate that he came into my life when he did because ... I was really set on my background,” White said. “Win at all costs.”

White says McFarland has always seen through the box score with his players. It’s what he believes is a rare virtue.

“He worries more about the people in his house more than the next guy walking through the door,” White said.

These words have been echoed through years of JMU teams, speaking to the off-the-field wisdom McFarland selflessly bestows on his players.

“Every single person that has come through this door has been taught how to be a good man,” White said. “There’s not enough good men out there. He’s been here 18 years. If one senior from every class turns out to be a good man, he’s made more of a difference in the world than most people.”

Young boys walk through the clubhouse doors as freshmen and it’s up to McFarland to make sure that they exit as men.

“Very few of them are going to make a living playing baseball,” McFarland said. “[You] got to think about that. They’re going to

be men. They’re going to have families, they’re going to have jobs. It’s really my mission as a coach is to create men first. I think becoming a good baseball player is kind of a byproduct of that.”

McFarland is a missionary for good men and strong character. Though somewhere along the line, he’s a critic.

“Encouragement is always a better way to work with people,” McFarland said. “I’ve learned you can criticize someone, but you can’t practice criticism. There’s a fine difference there.”

Stepping out from the team meeting room inside Memorial Hall, redshirt junior shortstop Chad Carroll said he’s as healthy as it gets after missing all but 16 games last season due to injury. He’s a veteran who’s seen the ups and down of the program and said McFarland’s consistency is invaluable to the players.

“Even-keeled through every situation, through the worst times, through the best times,” Carroll said. “He always has something productive to say. That’s a different sort of coaching technique than I’ve experienced in the past. No matter what happens after the game, we’re going to have a head coach that’s going to be completely level-headed.”

With a 17-36 record to avenge from last season, on top of three straight losing seasons, McFarland wants success, something he was quite familiar with prior to this recent stretch. However, there’s value in unity.

“I would like for these guys to just bond together,” he said. “I feel like last couple of years our team hasn’t gelled as a team in terms of chemistry. I’m hoping this last one will show what some guys can do if they work hard together.”

With a heart for young coaches, McFarland will continue to dish his wisdom following this season. He foresees a move south with his wife, Deb, possibly to Georgia where her mother lives.

A grand total of 55 games, potentially more in the postseason, stands in between McFarland and retirement. As he rides the bus circuit one more time, he’ll be reminded of his 38 years of



SAM TAYLOR / THE BREEZE

Spanky McFarland has notched 503 career wins in 38 years of coaching collegiate baseball.

coaching as he steps to the plate shaking the hands of coaches he’s known for years. The bus may or may not lead to destiny this season, but 503 career wins might help anyone sleep well at night.

In the meantime, McFarland jokingly has his future paved.

“Get a metal detector and join an Eagles cover band.”

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## SOFTBALL | Dukes’ 2015 roster has only four upperclassmen

from page 11

was another area the team deeply focused on.

“Last year we made a couple of communication errors that cost us games,” sophomore outfielder Taylor Newton said. “We are definitely trying to improve on that and eliminate those mistakes.”

The Dukes also made some positional changes that they feel could greatly benefit the team.

Junior Hannah Hayes made the transition to the outfield from the infield, while sophomore Niki Prince did just the opposite.

Like last year, this year’s roster can best be described in one word: youth.

The team only graduated four seniors last season, but only has four upperclassmen in total on the roster this year. The rest of this year’s squad is made up of eight sophomores and nine freshmen. Last year the roster had 11 freshman and three sophomores.

However, Dean feels that the Dukes have the most experience in two positions he feels experience is needed most — pitcher

and catcher.

As a pitcher and one of the four upperclassmen, Ford realizes the leadership she is responsible for, but also believes the younger team will be ready for what waits ahead.

“We are a younger team age-wise, but [the freshmen] have been playing this game since they were young so we don’t look at them as freshmen,” Ford said. “Just trying to lead them, get them excited for the season, and hope they bring as much effort to every game as possible.”

Ford was named an ESPNW Preseason Second Team All-American and one of the Top 50 players to watch for the 2015 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Award.

Senior Heather Kiefer is Ford’s counterpart in the circle pitching for the Dukes. Combined, the two pitched JMU to victory in all but one of its 45 wins last season.

Behind the plate for the Dukes is junior catcher Erica Field, who in 2014 was named First Team All-CAA, National Fastpitch Coaches Association First Team All-Region and was CAA co-Defensive Player of the Year.

Another thing that Dean feels will be important this season is the experience that the sophomore class earned last year as freshmen playing in the postseason.

As one of those sophomores, Newton feels she can help out her freshmen peers.

“It’s like a new standpoint,” Newton said. “But it’s easy to relate to them and know how they feel and what they’re going through.”

JMU will first step foot on its new synthetic turf field for a home game on March 4 in a doubleheader against the University of Virginia.

In the meantime, the Dukes hit the road for three different tournaments to open the season.

They lead off the season this weekend, playing five games in three days at the Osprey Invitational. They will face Virginia Tech and North Florida University on Friday, the University of Maine and Jacksonville State University on Saturday, then round off the weekend by playing UMaine again on Sunday.

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