

The Breeze

Serving James Madison University Since 1922

Vol. 94, No. 20

Thursday, November 5, 2015

breezejmu.org

Uber expands services to Harrisonburg

Riders take advantage of company's app as alternative to traditional taxis

By **VICTORIA HOLLOWAY**
contributing writer

Uber, the mobile taxi app, launched in Harrisonburg in late October.

The app features a cab booking service called "uberX", which has mid-range to hybrid vehicles that seat up to four passengers.

Uber is cashless and rides can be requested through the app. The cost to take an Uber is \$2.75 plus \$0.25 per minute and \$1.50 per mile, but the cost can increase depending on the demand. The cashless platform aims to eliminate the risks and conflict that can come with typical taxis, such as disputed fares, lack of cash and fare evasion.

Kaitlin Durkosh, an Uber spokeswoman, said that because of JMU, along with the restaurants and shops downtown, Harrisonburg seemed like a natural fit for expansion.

"We're really excited to grow our Virginia footprint, and offer the same option to residents and visitors in Harrisonburg that nearby

Charlottesville and several other cities in Virginia have come to rely on," Durkosh said.

Brian Shull, Harrisonburg's economic development director, believes students will be quick to utilize Uber.

"If students have a positive experience, then word of mouth will be the best advertising," Shull said.

Some JMU students have already taken advantage of Uber. Taylor Currie, a sophomore international relations major, recently took an Uber on Halloween weekend.

"We downloaded it and were supposed to get the first ride free but it said there was a \$17 minimum," Currie said. "So I think we paid \$17 because all the taxis were so busy that they weren't even picking up when we called ... the Uber came in literally 10 minutes and the guy was so nice and his car was ridiculously pimped out. He customized it and had glowing blue lights inside and a TV on the back of

see **UBER**, page 4

The cost to take an Uber is
\$2.75 PLUS \$0.25
per minute and
\$1.50
per mile.

To help insure the safety of Uber riders, there is also a
\$1.30 safe rides fee added to the cost of the ride.

OTHER SAFETY ADDITIONS: 24-hour support, background checks, new in-app safety features and insurance.

UBER 

KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE



COURTESY OF INSOMNIA COOKIES

Insomnia Cookies was founded by a University of Pennsylvania student.

Up all night, with cookies

Popular East Coast chain Insomnia Cookies to open location in Harrisonburg

By **ALLISON GIPS**
contributing writer

Many students and Harrisonburg locals alike know of the local late-night cookie delivery service known as Campus Cookies. And if one way to get cookies at 2 a.m. wasn't enough, there will be a new addition to the cookie craze later this month, Insomnia Cookies. This means that Campus Cookies will face some competition in the near future.

"We definitely are aware of Insomnia Cookies and certainly understand their reason to continue to expand across the nation," Scott Davidson, the owner and founder of Campus Cookies and a 2009

JMU alumnus, said. "We definitely feel like it's best for us to continue to focus on us and what makes us great, and not necessarily get caught up in any type of negativity."

Like Campus Cookies, Insomnia Cookies has been a popular supplier of late-night college snacking. People have been losing sleep over Insomnia Cookies since 2003 when Seth Berkowitz, a University of Pennsylvania student, coined the concept.

"Insomnia Cookies looks for active communities that we can be a part of, which made opening in Harrisonburg an easy choice," Courtney Altamura, marketing manager at Insomnia Cookies, said.

The company has more than 70 locations expanding across the East Coast.

It specializes in the delivery of cookies straight to the hungry customer's doorstep until 3 a.m. What sets Insomnia Cookies apart from other late-night bakeries is its goal of building strong relationships with the community.

"We believe the experience we provide our guests is unparalleled," Altamura said. "We consider everyone that works at Insomnia Cookies family and we want everyone that comes to our store or has cookies delivered to feel that way too."

Back in March, Campus Cookies was offered to be bought out by Insomnia Cookies but respectfully declined the offer.

see **COOKIES**, page 8

Funding faculty innovation

Madison Trust backs staff ideas

By **EVAN McALLISTER**
The Breeze

Recently, JMU enjoyed enormous success with its faculty mini-grant program, a project revolving around interested faculty members submitting proposals for personal projects that furthered JMU's self-stated goal of becoming an "engaged university." The program proved to be wildly popular among faculty, eventually having its operating budget doubled and being renewed for another semester.

Now, a new project is underway, and it operates under a similar premise. In collaboration with the Leo-lou Alumni Center on East Campus, the Madison Trust enlists the aid of interested alumni donors to help fund faculty projects.

The program is likened to "Shark Tank," an award-winning ABC reality series and game show in which entrepreneurs pitch business proposals to a room full of venture capitalists interested in funding new ideas — the investors being the show's titular "sharks." The Madison Trust follows nearly the same format, only with JMU faculty members and alumni serving the roles of entrepreneur and investor, respectively.

"Madison Trust grew out of the need to support faculty and staff creativity and innovation where state funding or operating budgets are unable to do so," President Jon Alger said in an email. "It's important that we keep entrepreneurial ideas moving forward at JMU, and this program does that by directly involving private donors in decisions about the future of JMU."

Selected projects are presented to alumni interested in donating, who then decide which projects they would like to fund, and how much they'd like to contribute. Instead of utilizing often-limited university resources, the program aims to procure outside funding for faculty projects. This is especially important for faculty projects that are beyond the scope of the mini-grants program according to Steve Smith, JMU's associate vice president of constituent relations, and it also allows for a greater degree of engagement.

"Donors can make donations to the university, investors can give their support to JMU and earmark it wherever they want to ... this gives donors a way to really get face-to-face with faculty and really see what's going on," Smith said. "We're really looking for faculty to pull out creative and innovative ideas."

The program began in the 2015 spring semester with 55 proposals being submitted by interested faculty. Of these, 12 applications were eventually selected for the

see **TRUST**, page 3

Started from the bottom

After beginning the season 0-6, men's soccer enters postseason play



CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

Freshman Griffin Cyphers (right) dribbles the ball during Tuesday's practice.

By **BENNETT CONLIN**
The Breeze

From an outside perspective it may appear that JMU men's soccer is having a season to forget. However, this couldn't be further from the truth. Fresh off a 2-0 win over No. 17-ranked Hofstra University last Saturday, the Dukes are heading into the Colonial Athletic Association tournament with all the confidence in the world.

"We think we can beat any team no matter what we're ranked or what they're ranked," freshman midfielder Thomas Shores said. "We showed that on Saturday."

The boost of confidence may have been needed as JMU had fallen short in three consecutive matches prior to its performance against the Pride.

"It was a great team performance," Shores said. "We came off a couple of performances that we weren't so happy with, but we really came together that match."

The Dukes' overall record of 4-9-4 and 3-3-2 in the CAA is a bit deceiving. They've been in multiple closely contested matches that just haven't gone their way. JMU has lost five of its matches by just one goal.

"In our conference play we've been very competitive, against the best teams we've had close matches," head coach Tom Foley said. "We've won matches against the best teams in the conference. We can take our conference play with us with a level of confidence that

see **SOCCER**, page 10

Feeling the grooves

Reggae DJ hosts weekly shows at local restaurant

LIFE | 8



JAMES TAYLOR / THE BREEZE



PUNNY PEOPLE

New & Improv'd uses off-the-cuff humor in performances

LIFE | 7



JUST KEEP SWIMMING

Swim and dive team remains undefeated

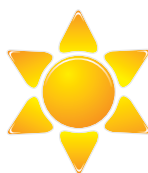
SPORTS | 9

TODAY WILL BE

Sunny

74° / 55°

Chance of rain: 0%





Today
partly cloudy
72°/56°



Friday
partly cloudy
76°/58°



Saturday
AM showers
59°/39°



Sunday
sunny
52°/32°

The Breeze

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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 Wayne Epps Jr., editor.

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Correction

- The Nov. 2 news brief "Former JMU professor arrested for alleged murder" incorrectly spelled Jason W. Martin's name. It appeared as "Marten" in the piece, but it is "Martin."

TH

Nov. 5

Documentary Film Showing: America's First Forest, Carl Schenck & the Asheville Experiment @ Burruss Hall, room 236, 6 to 8 p.m.

"Shakuntala" by Kalidasa, Translated by W.J. Johnson @ Mainstage Theatre, Forbes Center, regular \$15, students \$11, 8 to 9:30 p.m. through Saturday, and also 2 p.m. Saturday

Live Music: Soda Bomb, Julia Pox, and Brian Kilma @ The Golden Pony, tickets \$5, 9 p.m.

F

Nov. 6

Thanksgiving potluck @ Festival, Highlands, 6 to 9 p.m.

JMU's Hospitality Management Program presents the 13th Annual Le Gourmet event @ Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles, tickets available on jmulegourmet.com, 6:30 p.m. to midnight

Alcoholics Anonymous @ Madison Union 311, 8 p.m.

S

Nov. 7

First Lego League Regional Tournament @ ISAT/CS building, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

JMU Chamber Orchestra @ Recital Hall, Forbes Center, regular \$10, students \$5, 8 p.m.

Free Brew Tour @ Brothers Craft Brewing, 12:15 to 2 p.m.

SU

Nov. 8

Sunday Brunch @ A Bowl of Good Cafe, 7 a.m.

Frosty 5K for Multiple Sclerosis @ Festival lawn, \$5 to sign up, \$15 shirts for the race, 10:30 a.m. to noon

JMU Women's basketball exhibition vs. Davis & Elkins @ Convocation Center, 2 p.m.

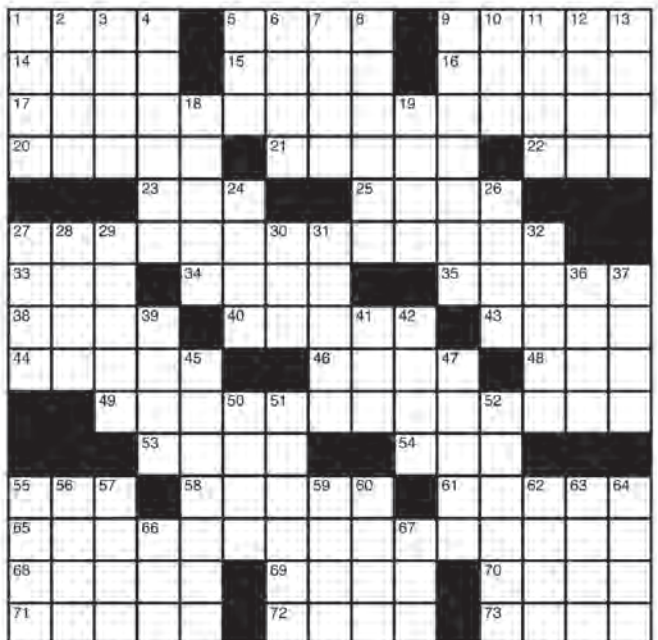
Missing something? Send us your events at breezecopy@gmail.com.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS
1 Luxurious
5 Decorative bedroom item
9 As such
14 Morales of "Jericho"
15 Improbable
16 Without stopping
17 What a party crasher may get
20 French room
21 Signifies
22 Nuggets' org.
23 Air traveler's concern, briefly
25 Mil. group that "teaches you to lead"
27 19th-/20th-century South African conflicts
33 "Stupid me!"
34 Unlikely prom king
35 Chocolate-covered caramel treats
38 Starting from
40 Event with arguments
43 Habit
44 NFL's winningest coach
46 In the way indicated
48 Support
49 Horror movie characters
53 Jog
54 Petty with hits
55 Shindigs
58 Occupied
61 Shows of crowd approval
65 Film score component, and a hint to words hidden in 17-, 27- and 49-Across
68 "Sweeney ___ the Nightingales": Eliot poem
69 Newbie
70 Italian meat sauce
71 Do not disturb
72 Promote
73 Inbox clogger

DOWN
1 Lats relatives
2 Workplace welfare agcy.
3 Caravel mover



By Gerry Wildenberg

11/5/15

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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11/5/15

42 Unbridled desire	59 Eye problem
45 Shorten	60 Title
47 Assault	outranking viscount
50 First-rate	62 Memo letters
51 Double exposures?	63 Capital west of Moscow
52 Affairs of the heart	64 Bathtub buildup
55 Dashboard feature	66 Bach's "Mass ___ Minor"
56 "I'll pay"	67 Texter's "What a riot!"
57 2013 Wimbledon champ Andy Murray, e.g.	

WORLD NEWS

Islamic State car bomb hits U.S allies

McClatchy Foreign Staff

TRUCKY — The newest U.S.-backed offensive against the Islamic State in northern Syria suffered a devastating setback when the extremist group detonated an explosive-laden vehicle near a Kurdish-led column of armored vehicles, an Arab militia commander said last Monday.

The Islamic State said the suicide bomber, with five tons of explosives, attacked a convoy of 70 vehicles last Sunday, including tanks and armored personnel carriers, killed dozens of Arabs and members of the Kurdish People's Protection Units, or YPG.

Bandar al-Humaydi, commander of the al-Sanadid Arab militia, confirmed the incident in a phone conversation. He said that his militia rescued some 70 YPG fighters, many of them seriously wounded, after the attack.

The attack occurred near Al-Khatuniya, a village about 25 miles east of Hasaka, the capital of the province by the same name, and about five miles west of the Iraqi border.

Al-Humaydi said the explosion came after his forces had captured Al-Khatuniya and cut the roads to Al-Hawl, an oil-producing city outside of Hasaka.

The YPG disclosed the offensive on its website last Saturday, carrying an announcement by a newly minted Kurdish-Arab coalition called the Syrian Democratic Forces. It also distributed film to TV networks showing a ceremonial reading of a statement of purpose.

Kurds setting up to rule Syrian town

McClatchy Foreign Staff

SYRIA — Trash litters the dusty streets of Tal Abyad just across the border from Turkey, and the fountains that form the centerpieces on the traffic islands are dry.

For the current rulers of Tal Abyad, who seized the city from Islamic State extremists in June, restoring services has not been a top priority. The Kurdish People's Protection Units militia, or YPG by its Kurdish initials, which took control with the help of U.S. airstrikes, has a different agenda: to remake Tal Abyad into a Kurdish city.

Just across from the traffic circle where the Islamic State staged public beheadings, a brightly painted banner on the outer wall of the municipal building proclaims the town's Kurdish name and its new order.

"Gire Spi," it says in Kurdish, "is the living symbol of coexistence between Kurds, Arabs, Armenians and Turkmans." The slogan is repeated in Arabic and uses the town's Arabic name. But the meaning is clear: Tal Abyad is under YPG control, and "coexistence" is whatever the YPG deems it to be.

The hoary term from the Soviet-era lexicon points to the close ties the YPG's parent organization, the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, had with the now defunct Soviet Union and continues to have with Russia.

Turkish ruling party wins majority

McClatchy Foreign Staff

TRUCKY — In a surprise victory that strengthened the hand of Turkey's powerful president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkey's ruling Justice and Development Party regained its parliamentary majority last Sunday after an unexpected surge of support in a rerun of the June national elections.

Preliminary results gave the moderate Islamist party, known as AKP, 316 seats in the 550-seat parliament, a working majority but short of the 330 it would need change the Turkish constitution.

It was an amazing improvement in the percentage of the vote the party received: 49 percent compared with 40.9 percent in June, and more than any poll or even the AKP had predicted. State television reported voter turnout at 85.8 percent, slightly higher than in June. In second place was the social democratic Republican People's Party, known as the CHP, which won the 134 seats, compared with 132 seats in June.

The big losers were the Kurdish People's Democratic Party, or HDP, which fell to 59 seats from 80 but still managed to get 11 percent of the total vote, above the 10 percent minimum required to win seats in parliament; and Turkey's right-wing party, the Nationalist Movement Party, or MHP, which won only 41 seats, down from 80 in June. But its 13 percent of the total vote also guaranteed it a place in parliament.

Perpetual wars taking heavy toll on hospitals

McClatchy Foreign Staff

SWITZERLAND — A month after a U.S. AC130 aircraft raked a Doctors Without Borders trauma hospital in Afghanistan, killing 30, there is still no official U.S. report on what led to the assault.

Since the attack, other medical facilities have been targeted in a range of conflicts around the world, heightening growing concerns among humanitarian workers that the long tradition of sanctity for hospitals, medical workers in combat zones has vanished in an era of scorched-earth combat.

Last week, Doctors Without Borders denounced what it said was an airstrike by a Saudi-led coalition on a hospital in northern Yemen, has been waging war against rebels backed by Iran.

And last Saturday, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, after meeting with the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer, issued a denunciation of what he called "the brazen and brutal erosion of respect for international humanitarian law. These violations have become so routine there is a risk people will think that the deliberate bombing of civilians, the targeting of humanitarian and health care workers, and attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship are an inevitable result of conflict," he said.

Compiled from Tribune News Service.

NATIONAL NEWS

Groups put clean power plan to legal test

CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration's two rules to curb greenhouse gas emissions from power plants have already attracted 21 suits in opposition — ensuring that federal appeals court judges, and possibly the Supreme Court, will determine whether the landmark limits stay or go.

Opponents have also filed six motions for a stay of the rules, known as the Clean Power Plan, in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Those motions seek to keep the rule on hold until the suits are heard. They also preview the major arguments that will be made to the judges and to the public in the coming months over the landmark rules.

Appeals court judges will first determine whether to grant a stay early next year, in response to the motions filed by 26 states, utilities and unions, trade groups and the coal industry. Environmental groups and a set of 15 states and two cities have sided with the EPA and contend the challengers won't meet the legal requirements for a stay.

Texas colleges prepare for campus carry

The Dallas Morning News

AUSTIN — Religious Studies 375. "What Is Religion?" Three credit hours. No firearms allowed.

That kind of course catalog listing might not be so farfetched for Texas' public colleges and universities, as school leaders move closer to implementing the state's contentious campus carry law.

Starting next fall, licensed Texans will be able to carry concealed handguns into buildings at four-year public universities. And while public schools can't totally opt out of campus carry, as private ones can, they may carve out "reasonable" gun-free zones.

The discretion — part of a compromise late in the Legislature's session that helped the bill pass — has injected uncertainty over how far schools can stretch those bounds. And as lawmakers keep a close eye on how universities proceed, some have speculated that campus carry could end up in court. Nowhere has the debate been more pointed than over classrooms.

Some argue that the law clearly intended to allow concealed carry in class. Others contend that the law clearly allows schools to outlaw that scenario.

Colleges say yes to affirmative consent

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — For Blake Bullock, talking about sex is nothing new. As a peer educator at the University of Illinois, he leads discussions on everything from birth control to sexually transmitted diseases. But recently, the conversations have taken a decidedly different turn.

"We're spending a lot of time on the nuances of consent because that's where many students get tripped up," said Bullock, a graduate student in social work in Champaign. "They do worry that it's going to ruin the mood."

As sexual assault cases on campuses have moved from private matter to public spotlight, college officials are revamping their sexual misconduct policies and replacing the old rules of "no means no" with a new norm of "yes means yes" — otherwise known as affirmative consent. It's defined as "an affirmative, unambiguous and conscious decision by each participant to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity," according to state laws in California and New York that set the standards for college policies.

Google and Twitter executives woo Beijing

Los Angeles Times

BEIJING — China's Great Firewall is still blocking the services of Facebook, Google and Twitter, but that hasn't stopped them from visiting Beijing hoping to boost their business prospects on the mainland.

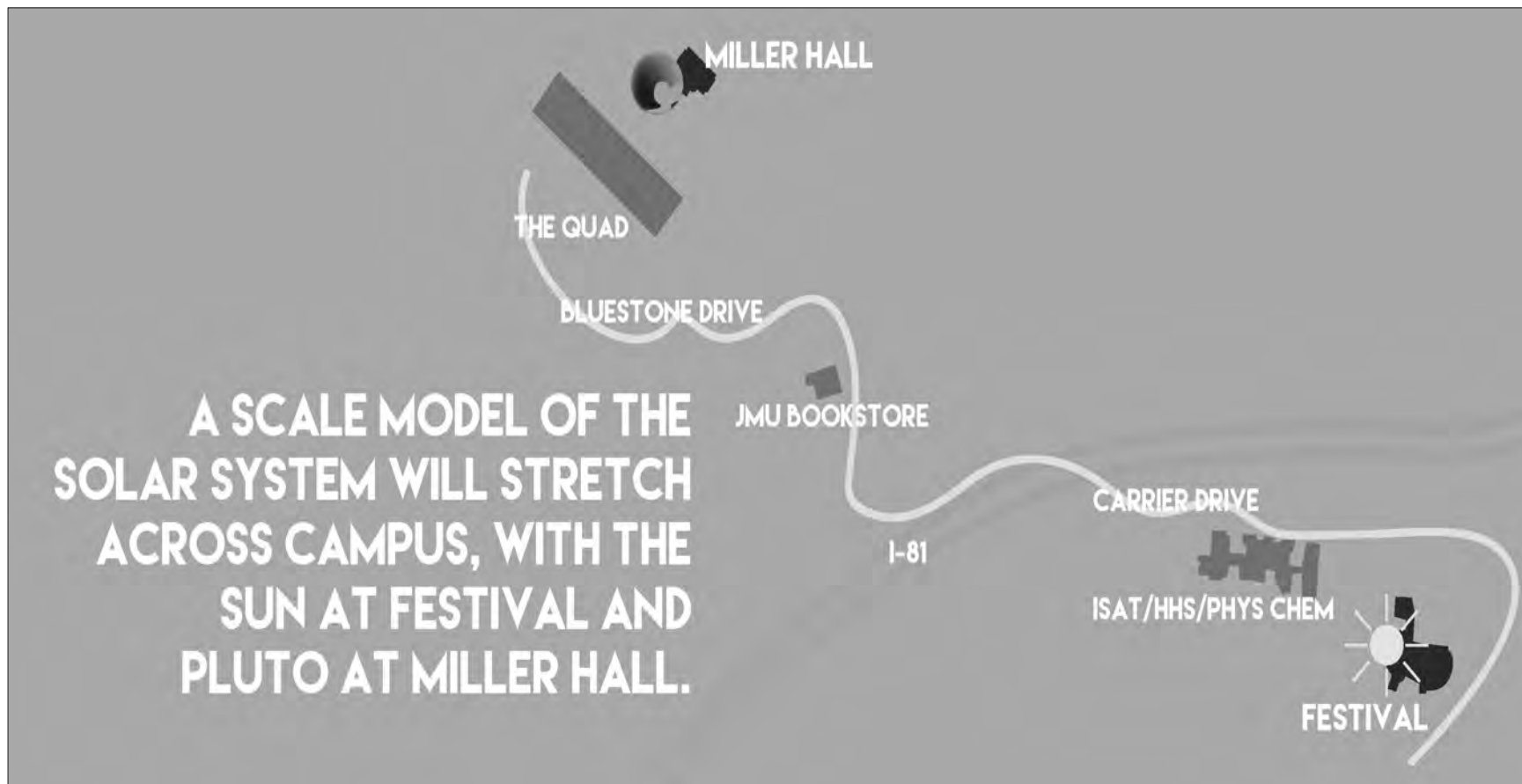
Following in the footsteps of Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg — who gave a much-discussed speech in Chinese late last month at Tsinghua University — senior executives from Google and Twitter made appearances in Beijing last Monday, attending a technology conference hosted by San Francisco-based TechCrunch.

"In fact, we do hope to provide service in China, and we continue to communicate with the Chinese government. This is also why I'm here this week," said Eric Schmidt, executive chairman of Alphabet/Google, according to a Chinese-language transcript of his remarks provided by organizers. He added that the company has "always been in touch with the Chinese government."

Compiled from Tribune News Service.

Solar system to be modeled across campus

Signs will mark location of planets and provide information for community



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

By **CHRIS HOGAN**
contributing writer

JMU aims to construct a scale model of the solar system stretching across campus. Shanil Virani, the director of the John C. Wells Planetarium, hopes that the project will further engage the Harrisonburg community. Money for the project will come from a mini-grant the Faculty Senate has provided, and the JMU physics and astronomy department. According to Virani, who's also a professor in the physics and astronomy department, the solar system model will include signs marking each planet's location, with the sun placed at Festival and Pluto placed at Miller Hall. These signs will be similar to those seen around campus and will provide information to campus residents and visitors. "Ideally, it would be wonderful to collaborate with talented artists on campus to provide

their visual impression of that planet," Virani said. "It doesn't necessarily have to be a sphere of the correct size. It would be great to simply begin with the name of the planet — say Mars — and then use that as inspiration to lead the artist wherever [they] may decide to go."

Virani first began discussing this project with Jennifer Mangan, a geology professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies, shortly after becoming director of the planetarium.

"We wanted to increase the visibility of science on campus, provide an opportunity for the thousands of people who visit JMU and our planetarium every year to get a very real sense of the size scale of our own solar system and to learn how

see **MODEL**, page 4

TRUST | Ten selected proposals expected to amount to nearly \$200,000 total and range from \$5,000 to \$40,000



CHELSEA GLOWACKI / THE BREEZE

Julie Sanford, the head of JMU's nursing department, is one of the faculty members giving presentations on the 10 proposals that were submitted to the Madison Trust program this semester. The proposals were selected from a long list of applications. The first round of presentations will take place on Nov. 13.

from front

presentation event, with all but one of the dozen eventually receiving donor funding.

This semester's Madison Trust features an additional 10 proposals, selected from an equally-long list of applications. The first round of presentations will take place on Friday, Nov. 13, and already has the proposing faculty members in a state of cautious optimism. One of these is Julie Sanford, the head of JMU's nursing department.

"[JMU's] Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services has a program called the Caregivers' Community Network — it connects students with informal caregivers — like family members. The students provide respite care [for the patient] while the family member goes to a doctor's appointment or the grocery store, something like that," Sanford said. "We're interested in developing an app that the informal caregivers could use to connect with the patient: check on them, help them manage their medication, even take a blood pressure or

pulse reading."

Sanford and the IHHHS are working with the departments of nursing, social work, integrated science and technology, computer science and entrepreneurship in a collaborative effort to create the app, which she hopes will be funded by donors interested in furthering the program and the venture. Sanford hopes to use the app to both streamline aspects of the program, and to generate some additional revenue for the CCN.

"There has to be a certain level of computer technology comfort [to use the app], but it's a market that's getting wider all the time," Sanford said. "You don't want to develop a product that nobody is going to use, or they don't need."

Costel Constantin, an assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, also hopes to receive funding for one of his collaborative projects: a thermo-power wave battery, purportedly a more efficient method of energy storage.

"An MIT professor came up with this idea — if you take a piece of material and put it on top of some

insulating substrate [connected to two metal terminals], as you burn the material, you create positive chaos on one terminal and negative chaos on the other," Constantin said. "That's what a battery is. You have a positive charge and a negative charge, and when you close a circuit, the electrons want to combine with the positive charge — electrons have the negative charge."

Constantin went on to describe how the battery would likely use cellulose as a fuel source, a material formerly used in the making of the notoriously-flammable movie film used in the 1930s. When combined with the correct insulating material — in this case, manganese oxide — the battery allows for a high electrochemical power density, or ability to hold a large charge in a small space.

Tentative target goal amounts for the projects range from \$5,000 to \$40,000 each, with nearly \$200,000 in total goals between the 10 selected for the proposal ceremony. Even if their funding goals aren't completely met, however, the faculty behind the proposals have indicated

their determination to move forward with the contributions.

"We've budgeted it into phases — design, development, marketing — and each phase will have a certain amount of money," Sanford said. "If we could get the complete amount of money, we could complete the project in a year, and then, hopefully — well, there's a lot of creative things [we] could do."

Whatever the results of this semester's Madison Trust event, both the participants and the organizers have expressed a similar level of optimism about its outcome.

"The 2014-2015 academic year was the first year this program was offered," President Alger said. "We're excited to continue the Madison Trust program, and hope that this spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation continues to pervade the university."

A third Madison Trust event is slated for this coming spring, with faculty application deadlines in early December.

CONTACT Evan McAllister at mcalliem@dukes.jmu.edu.

Obenshain retains state Senate seat

Candidates discuss results and future plans

Incumbent Sen. Mark Obenshain has been re-elected to the state Senate seat for the 26th district. The Associated Press called the race Tuesday night with Obenshain well ahead of Democratic challenger April Moore.

According to the Virginia Department of Elections, Obenshain, a Republican, received 25,101 votes while Moore had 11,392.

"I'm delighted to have been able to win," Obenshain told the Daily News-Record Tuesday night. "I'm honored to be able to continue to serve the people of the 26th District in Richmond for the next four years."

Obenshain was first elected to the state Senate in 2003 and is a former member of the JMU Board of Visitors. The 26th district includes the City of Harrisonburg and surrounding areas.

Even though Moore didn't win the election, she said that, by running, she and her supporters accomplished a lot.

She also believes that the issues she raised, including climate change and the impact of big businesses, are important.

"Both of those are related and there's a lot of action that could take place in the General Assembly if we have the right legislators," Moore said Wednesday.

Moore hopes that, by running, she has alerted community members to these issues and that they are inspired to make necessary changes.

"As every teacher knows, you plant seeds and you often don't see the immediate impact of them," Moore said. "So, I'm hoping that, over time, people maybe will think more about it and ... I'm hoping that my campaign helps to build something important."

Moore plans to continue to serve as advocate for spreading awareness about climate change, though she is unsure of what forum she would like to enter.

After winning the election Tuesday night, Obenshain recognized the JMU College Republicans and their support. He's also looking forward to his new term as state senator.

- staff report

MODEL

Project will cost around \$15,000 when complete

from page 3

important science and engineering are in our robotic exploration of it,” Virani said.

Virani estimates the project will cost roughly \$15,000, which is less than the scale model of the solar system on the National Mall that, according to Virani, cost tens of thousands of dollars. Once all of the funds are gathered and construction can begin, it is expected to take less than a semester to complete. For now, however, the exact start date is still unknown and depends on when they receive another grant.

Christian Scully, a freshman computer science major, was unfamiliar with the project but believes it will positively impact the community and will be another reason for prospective students to apply to JMU.

“It would be great for someone to walk on the campus and see that,” Scully said. “I think that would definitely be an eye-catching thing for people applying to JMU. If I had seen that when I was applying, I would have been like ‘wow, that’s pretty cool.”

Other students, including Michaela Kiehl, a sophomore management major and a student operator at the John C. Wells Planetarium, think the project will garner attention about the universe.

“Not very many people know much about [our solar system] and I feel like if you know something about it then you may actually find out that you’re interested in it,” Kiehl said. “So just kind of having that awareness, just a little bit of it, can kind of help your interest in it.”

The mystery of space is alluring to some students, such as Derek Anderson, a senior math major. Anderson also works at the planetarium as a student operator.

“A lot of people don’t realize how big the solar system is, especially in relation to the size of the planets,” Anderson said. “It will give people very good insight as to how much space is between all of the planets.”

Virani believes the project could spark something new in those who see it.

“At a time when this country has an enormous difficulty in inspiring the next generation of American scientists and engineers, we hope this model is a small flame that grows into a beacon for those that visit,” Virani said.

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By BROOKE BLANEY
contributing writer

Before becoming an associate professor in the Department of Health Sciences at JMU, Ashley Skelly graduated from the College of William & Mary with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. She moved to Harrisonburg in 2001 to live with her brother while she took prerequisite classes for physician assistant school and served as the manager of Downtown Athletic Store. In 2006, Skelly moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where she attended Wake Forest University and earned her Master of Medical Science. Since 2008, she has been working as a physician assistant at JMU’s Health Center. In addition, she taught Physical Diagnosis II this past summer before transitioning to her full-time faculty position in August.

What interests you most about the field of health sciences?

Working as a physician assistant in the clinic, I enjoy examining, diagnosing and treating patients’ problems. I stress a proactive, rather than reactive, approach when it comes to health care. It is important to emphasize wellness and healthy lifestyle changes, as opposed to only focusing on fixing an illness.

What’s your role at JMU in the Department of Health Sciences?

Currently, I am an assistant professor in JMU’s graduate physician assistant program. I teach classes such as Physical Diagnosis and Medical Terminology. The program conducts its own admissions so I help out with that by reviewing applications and interviewing applicants. I am an adviser for two student organizations: PASS, the Physician Assistant Student Society, and the Pre-Physician Assistant Club. I also continue to work at JMU’s Health Center to fulfill my clinical requirements as a physician assistant.

What did you do before working at JMU?

After graduating from William & Mary in 2001, I moved to Harrisonburg to live with my brother, who was attending JMU. I fell in love with the area and after PA school, I moved back to begin my career. I began at JMU in 2008 when I was hired as physician assistant in the Health Center’s general clinic. This past summer, I had the opportunity to teach a Physical Diagnosis class for the PA program and absolutely loved it. In August, I accepted my new

Checking the pulse

Physician assistant discusses life as a new professor at JMU



DANIEL STEIN / THE BREEZE

Ashley Skelly got her B.S. in Kinesiology from the College of William and Mary and her M.A. in Medical Science from Wake Forest University before coming to JMU to work as a Physician Assistant in 2008.

faculty position with the program. It’s funny, both my parents were teachers, and I always said that I would never teach, but once I experienced the joys of education, I felt like it was where I wanted to be. I guess it really is in my blood.

What do you like about your position now?

I’m loving my first semester in my current position. I am so thankful to have the opportunity to teach subjects about which I feel passionate and to have students who have such a strong desire and passion to learn. My coworkers are great, and we are all so supportive of and helpful to one another. I also like the flexibility of this position, especially when it comes to my family life.

Are you working on anything besides teaching currently?

In fulfilling my scholarship portion of my faculty position, I continue to work part time in the general clinic at JMU’s Health Center. I also am the co-coordinator for the Shenandoah Region of the Virginia Academy of Physician Assistants, an organization that helps to strengthen and

promote the PA profession in the area. As well, I am involved in the New Faculty Academy at JMU which provides support and mentoring to new faculty members.

What’s your biggest pet peeve?

I’m super organized, and OCD, so I would have to say that my biggest pet peeve would be messiness. My boss at the Health Center used to rearrange my desk up when I had a day off, just because he knew it would drive me crazy. Because I have a 16-month-old at home, I have had to relax a little bit on that.

What are your hobbies?

I love sports and my family. I play on volleyball and softball leagues in my community. I actually met my husband, John, playing softball about five years ago. We have been married for two and a half years, and he works at JMU, as well. We live in Broadway with our son, Coleman, and sweet dog, Noelle. We love our time with them and watching Coleman grow.

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UBER

Safe rides fee included

from front

his chairs and a tv for the passenger seat.”

According to Becca Moore, a senior media arts and design major, the minimum cost for a ride on the busy Halloween weekend went up to \$18.50. “I thought Uber would be a logical choice but the tripled fair rate of \$18.50 minimum is way too expensive for me,” Moore said.

Moore also said that she uses the app all the time, in various places like Norfolk, Seattle and New York City.

“The fact that users control the transaction via an app on their phone and that it is a cashless transaction makes Uber appealing,” Shull said. “The city will certainly be watching to see Uber’s impact locally.”

To help ensure the safety of Uber riders, there is also a \$1.30 safe rides fee added to the cost of the ride.

“The safe rides fee helps to support our efforts to provide a safe, reliable ride for people across the U.S. including improved 24-hour support, background checks, new in-app safety features and insurance,” Durkosh said.

The background check searches a driver’s name in a series of national, state and local databases. These include the National Sex Offender Registry, National Criminal Search and various databases used to flag suspected terrorists.

Along with the background check that is required of all drivers, a Social Security trace is used to identify addresses associated with the driver’s name up to seven years ago.

Riders and drivers can contact one another using a system that anonymizes their phone numbers so that neither can access the others’ personal numbers in the future.

Uber also has a feature called “Share My ETA.” This allows riders to share their estimated time of arrival and other ride details with friends or family through the app.

In addition, Durkosh said that Uber encourages feedback from its riders.

“Our safety team reviews the feedback and investigates any problems that may have occurred during the ride, whether it be something that happened in the car, a traffic accident or an altercation between rider and driver,” Durkosh said.

According to City Attorney Chris Brown, Uber was required to secure a business license in the city and pay applicable Business Professional Occupational License taxes like all other Transportation Network Companies partners.

Brown went on to say that localities in Virginia are prohibited from regulating Uber and other TNCs under a new code that was passed by the General Assembly this year. The code states that TNC partners (the drivers) and their vehicles are under supervision and regulation by DMV.

“In other words, the General Assembly passed very strong ‘hands off’ legislation as to localities on this subject,” Brown said.

Other cab companies in the city have a

longer list of requirements than Uber to be able to conduct business in Harrisonburg.

Not only are they required, like Uber, to background check potential drivers and obtain a business license, but they also must take and pass a drug screening, and complete a physical exam.

Also, all taxicabs must be equipped with a taximeter that is approved by the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation. The owner of the taximeter is responsible of keeping it in proper conditions and making sure it is certified annually by HDPT for accuracy and that the certification is filed in the HDPT director’s office.

Unlike the city’s cab companies, Uber doesn’t hire any drivers or own any vehicles. Drivers for “uber-X” use their personal vehicles to provide rides on a schedule that works for them.

“Our safety team reviews the feedback and investigates any problems that may have occurred during the ride, whether it be something that happened in the car, a traffic accident or an altercation between rider and driver,”

Kaitlin Durkosh
Uber spokeswoman

According to Durkosh, there are hundreds of Uber partners who may drive in the Harrisonburg area, however, many of them work part-time and when it’s convenient for them, using the Uber platform for supplemental income.

Anyone who hasn’t used Uber before just has to download the app and create an account. Individuals can either use their current location through their phone or type in a pick-up location. Once riders are connected to a driver, they can see his or her name, vehicle make and model, license plate number, photo and estimated time of arrival. Once the ride is over, the riders’ method of payment on file will be automatically charged and they will be emailed a detailed receipt.

Durkosh feels that Uber will benefit the city and JMU students.

“Whether exploring all that Downtown Harrisonburg has to offer, or needing a ride to your off campus house after a late night at the library, Uber is a safe and affordable option,” Durkosh said.

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Ethical reasoning – it’s in your hands.


CHARACTER

Imagine ...



Over 4,000,000 Syrian refugees are fleeing from their war-torn homeland. Thirty of the 3,000 refugees that resettled in Harrisonburg want to attend JMU taking the places of transfers from other colleges. Should (morally) JMU accept these students?

What action(s) would help JMU achieve the best possible institutional **Character**? What choice would best express the university’s virtues and values?

ask **FORCLEAR** and put your ethically-reasoned decisions into action.



the
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JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

HAYLEY MOORE | historical nonfiction

The name's **Elba** ... Idris Elba

Race shouldn't be a factor in casting movie roles



The new James Bond movie “Spectre” comes out this week and I’m quite excited about it. Ever since Daniel Craig took over the role as 007, I feel like the James Bond franchise has been better.

However, there’s speculation over whether or not Craig will reprise his role as Britain’s favorite MI6 agent. While the rumors have been floating around the Internet, many have been putting in their

two cents regarding who should be the next Bond.

One of the fan favorites, whose name has been popping up a lot, is British actor Idris Elba — but there are some who are totally against this.

One person in particular is Anthony Horowitz, the writer of the new James Bond novels. Horowitz publicly stated that he was against Elba being cast as he was “too street.”

Either I’ve been living under a rock or I’m totally oblivious to this term. What does “too street” even mean? Many came to the defense of Elba, claiming that “too street” meant “too black,” and I have to agree. We can have a gender-swapped character, but we can’t have a black James Bond?

It’s a known fact that in the original James Bond novels,

Bond’s a white man. However, does this mean that Bond should only ever be white? I think not.

Considering this is my third article this semester about Elba, I think it’s pretty clear how I feel about him. He’s a talented and wonderful actor; in fact, he’s probably one of my favorite actors, and I feel like he would make a great James Bond.

His race shouldn’t matter. If he auditions for Bond and is the best candidate, then let him have the job. Race shouldn’t be a determining factor when it comes to a role. It should be about what an actor can do with the role to connect with audience members. What can the actor do to make the role new and exciting?

James Bond has never been played by the same actor. The franchise has gone through a total of seven actors who have each made the character their own and have portrayed Bond in a variety of ways.

If Elba is ever cast as James Bond, I’m sure that he’ll continue the legacy of his predecessors, but also make the role his own. Let it be about talent and not about race.

Hayley Moore is a senior history and writing, rhetoric and technical communication double major. Contact Hayley at moorehe@dukes.jmu.edu.



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

JOANNA McNEILLY | *The Breeze*

NETFLIX

recommendation of the week

TV: “That ’70s Show” (1998 - 2006)

8 seasons (all on Netflix)

Hanging out down the street, doing the same old thing they do every week, the cast of “That ’70s Show” has me clicking “Next Episode” without any hesitation. This show makes me envy those who lived their teen years during the 1970s. Taking place in Point Place, Wisconsin, the show features a group of high school friends who are classic rock-loving, pot-smoking inbetweeners who live in the suburbs.

Not too long ago, I was naive to think that there would never be a show good enough to watch twice. But here I am on the second season, watching at least two episodes a day because of how gripping and witty each character is. Every day the gang hangs out in the basement of Eric Forman (Topher Grace), one of the main characters, where they talk and joke about school, relationships, family and what mishap each character is experiencing in their teen lives.

Each character is separated in uniqueness from the other. For instance, Steven Hyde (Danny Masterson), known as Hyde by his friends, is a rebellious, die-hard rock ‘n’ roll fan who’s constantly suspicious of what the government is behind. Jackie Burkhart (Mila Kunis), a self-centered, wealthy and attractive young teen, became a part of the

gang because of her on and off relationship to Michael Kelso (Ashton Kutcher). Kelso is considered the local idiot by the town, but believes he’ll be successful in his life because of his good looks. Fez (Wilmer Valderrama) is a foreign exchange student in their high school, but you never find out where he’s from. Donna Pinciotti (Laura Prepon), Eric’s girlfriend, is the intelligent one in the bunch who’s a confident female character with feminist ideals.

The best part of “That ’70s Show” is when the gang sits in “the circle,” a signature aspect of the show because it’s a popular setting where the camera pans and stops at each character as they speak. Hyde, Kelso, Eric and Fez each have their own designated spots in the circle, where they talk about whatever problems they’re going through and ask for advice while under the influence of marijuana.

What’s so captivating about this show is that it’ll remind you of the goofball friends you had growing up. As the series continues, you watch everyone grow up and go to college or start their adult lives, which makes the ending very sentimental as the cast counts down the last seconds of the decade, and the ‘80s roll in.

ARNELA ISERIC | letter to the editor

LISTEN UP

English doesn't have to be every student's first language

My vision of the American demographic isn’t a homogeneous community full of Caucasian folks speaking English. My vision of America is a community full of diversity — diversity that should be embraced, not scolded.

My family came to the U.S. as refugees in the ‘90s. They were flung into a completely new culture at random, shell-shocked after spending a majority of their lives in Eastern Europe. As my family continued with life, they, including myself, learned English.

Now, my family’s English isn’t perfect. However, their English is intelligible and they understand everything. I myself went through 10 years of English lessons to get rid of an accent.

It’s a shame that, increasingly, I’ve been hearing around campus, “Why don’t those exchange students just speak English?” Or, “If

you come to America, you speak English.”

While I completely agree that those who come to America need to learn English, I don’t believe English should be spoken 24/7.

My family and I feel much more comfortable speaking in our native language. We can better express ourselves and it holds us close to our heritage, something I hope I can give to my own children.

Being bilingual is an extremely convenient skill to have in today’s society, and I can only hope people can learn to appreciate the differences people have and realize that maybe exchange students do speak and understand English. But if they want to speak their native language among themselves, why’s that so infuriating to people?

Arnela Iseric is a sophomore international affairs major.

What's your favorite show to binge watch?

Tell The Breeze about it! Write a Netflix recommendation and send it to breezeopinion@gmail.com



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

A “ride-a-bike-or-walk” dart to the opinion columnist complaining about bus routes.

From someone who knows that it’s your responsibility to get to class on time, not HDPT’s.

A “you-inspired-me” pat to Whitney Thore for speaking about body positivity and to the Health Center for hosting her.

From a student who really needed to hear what she had to say.

A “you-should-probably-transfer-if-you-feel-that-way” dart to the person in the Oct. 29 Darts & Pats who’s seen all the “wrongdoing” at JMU.

From that same senior with “blinders” on who knows you have no idea how donating to the university works and that the education you’ll receive here will get you the job you want one day.

A “clean-up-after-yourself” dart to the person who spilled on the stand-up computer desk in Carrier Library and left it there.

From a junior who didn’t appreciate having to reprint her project when it got soaked with who knows what.

A “what’s-with-the-attitude?” dart to the guy who works at Quizno’s during the day.

From a student who avoids Mr. Chips at all costs so he doesn’t have to deal with your unpleasant attitude.

A “you-know-what-they-say-when-you-assume” dart to the person in the last few Breeze issues who keeps insisting that we all donate to JMU.

From someone who knows not to assume that everyone at JMU must have had the same “awesome” experience, and that we don’t all have specific things we want to donate to, athletics or otherwise.

A “thanks-for-reminding-me-why-I’m-here” pat to the student who told me my class inspired her.

From an adjunct professor who’s having a hard time being back at work after being on maternity leave.

A “two-cups-of-hot-chocolate-warm” pat to the boy from dining services who went out of his way to bring me fresh hot chocolate during the men’s soccer game this weekend.

From an easily frozen athletic communications worker.

Editorial Policies

The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns. Letters must be no longer than 250 words. Guest columns must be no more than 650 words.

The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. The Breeze assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of The Breeze or its staff.

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.

The Breeze

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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

SATIRICAL NEWS COLUMN

JMU adds professors’ caricatures to course descriptions on MyMadison

By MATT MURPHY
The Breeze

This year, a change took place in which the letter “G” was dropped from the front of all the general education course numbers. The shift was initiated to try and release the stigma surrounding the “G” hanging over the sometimes poorly received GenEd courses. Luckily, the JMU registrar doesn’t plan on keeping the course numbers that vague, so it’ll be adding a small caricature of each JMU professor’s face to the front of each course number.

Every professor will be required to sit down with a licensed caricature artist and have their portraits drawn. The drawings will then be scanned and formatted next to the course number that the professor teaches. Many professors think it’s a great idea.

“They’re really doing that? Sounds weird, but whatever works I suppose,” media arts and design professor Jim Harpo said.

To spice it up, professors can opt to personalize their caricatures.

“If you want to give your picture a little personal flair, we’re open to that,” administrator Sharon Olaf said. “Maybe if you’re a chemistry teacher, you could have a funny little beaker. Kinesiology professors could have a picture of a football or something. Whatever you want, we are willing to work with each instructor to customize.”

Obviously, the best part about this new program is the ease it’ll add for students trying to register for classes because self-scheduling is so often bogged down with just trying to navigate which courses to take. Now, you’ll finally be able to make an instant decision about enrolling in a class based on the teacher’s cartoonish face.

The luxury of making snap judgments in this way is fairly unheard of at universities of similar size to JMU. Scheduling made easy has been a dream for both students and staff that, with a little help from an overpaid cartoonist, is starting to become a reality.

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KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

SPENCER MUNSON | contributing columnist

Living the *American* dream?

Not everyone is going to experience the same things in life, and that’s OK

“Because in the end, you won’t remember the time you spent working in the office or mowing your lawn. Climb that goddamn mountain.”

Many would argue that this statement by Jack Kerouac is one of little significance, that it’s just an over-simplified perspective of a life that requires a much more complex thought process.

I’m sure you could find a respectable portion of the population who would argue that “climb[ing] that goddamn mountain” would serve no practical purpose, that it would yield no productivity and essentially contribute nothing to our society. They would do a calculation of the opportunity cost of the time spent on that mountain and would show you how much money you could have made by spending that allocated time working in the office.

Those people aren’t wrong; in fact, by all practical considerations, they’re completely right. They’re also probably financially stable, own their homes, drive nice cars, go on a few vacations a year, have shiny name tags on their desks at work and, by American society standards, are considered successful. For all intents and purposes, we’ll refer to these American Dream fulfillers as the Smiths.

I’m sure if you were to ask the Smiths, they would tell you that they’re happy and content with life. That seems to always be the first thing we ask people about their situations in life: Are you happy?

We’re really set on this idea that happiness is the end game and as long as you grow up and make a lot of money and have a nice little family, that you’ve made it and you’re happy.

So where did our obsession with happiness come from? Why is it that we focus so much attention and energy on one little notch of the magnificent spectrum of human emotion?

If we consider happiness on a biological platform, then we would see that plenty of animals in the world experience happiness. It’s not a trait that’s exclusive to humans. Feeling joy isn’t the only thing that makes us human; in fact, it’s quite primitive, as it’s considered an evolutionary trait that gives us the incentive for survival.

Set goals in your life and fight vehemently for them, but know that if you don’t achieve them, all isn’t lost.

If we want to really experience life for all it has to offer, we must learn to embrace every emotion on the human spectrum for their unique characteristics and find the beauty in our abilities to experience them.

I see people every day sacrificing so much for what they call the American Dream. They want a stable job, nice house and a family so that they can feel happy and show others how happy they are. I think we’re selling ourselves short on this “dream.” We need to be striving for a new goal and I’ll tell you that it may not be on top of that damn mountain, but it’s not a bad place to start looking.

If we want to learn more about ourselves, we need to put ourselves to the test, we need to go out and find adventure, find struggle and find pain. We need to take risks, whether they’re emotional risks, like loving someone we may lose, or physical risks, like running a race we may not finish.

Life isn’t always about the “success” or the victories; the real life experiences lie in the greatest defeats, for it’s at those moments that you feel what it really means to be human. In those moments, you acknowledge that you aren’t impervious and that, indeed, you too are incredibly imperfect.

Don’t mistake these imperfections for weakness, for they can be your greatest strengths. Embrace your flaws and embrace the flaws of the people around you and you may find yourself seeing the world in a new light because you’ll stop measuring everything so quantitatively, you’ll stop measuring the days by how much you get done and, instead, you’ll measure the days in moments and experiences.

These experiences won’t be quantifiable. They won’t be visible and they may mean nothing to anyone else in the world. But they’ll mean the world to you.

Set goals in your life and fight vehemently for them, but know that if you don’t achieve them, all isn’t lost. You’ll wake up tomorrow with new goals, new knowledge of yourself and new strengths.

No one said you have to reach the top of the mountain, only that you have to start climbing.

Spencer Munson is a junior management major. Contact Spencer at munsonsc@dukes.jmu.edu.

BRIANA ELLISON | off topic

You can’t get rid of me

Cultural erosion seeks to erase what makes different cultures unique



In an article last month, I discussed cultural appropriation. I now want to address another trend that’s been permeating our society for most of its existence. I don’t believe there’s an overall term for it, so I’ll just call it cultural erosion.

How is this different from cultural appropriation? The two are slightly similar, but I define cultural erosion as completely erasing cultural significance from an idea, object or person. Cultural appropriation is simply the overlooking of such

significance.

One way cultural erosion is prevalent in our society is through beauty standards. I know to some this may seem like beating a dead horse, as people constantly complain about standards of beauty. However, discussing it is necessary, as conflicts over standards of beauty are still debated.

The European standard is presently the norm — although many moves are being made to diversify these standards. I define standards of beauty under cultural erosion for various reasons. First off, I tend to hate the term “standard of beauty.” It continuously implies that there’s only one beauty norm we should all subscribe to, which is impossible. I believe beauty comes in all forms and sizes; naturally, there’s no typical beauty, so why are we so eager to create one?

Additionally, in establishing a standard of beauty, we’re excluding those who don’t match this description. The primary way this is done is in the debate between natural (or ethnic) hair and straight hair. Over the summer, #HowItFeelstobeBlackGirl started trending on Twitter. As a black female, I immediately started tweeting, while simultaneously reading some of the popular tweets. I noticed that the most common issue was about hair.

Mainly, things such as when you wear your hair natural, you’re considered unkempt and unprofessional, yet if your hair is straightened, you’re deemed tidy and poised. And this doesn’t just count for black females. It applies to anyone whose hair isn’t naturally straight. This debate is also replicated among Muslim women who choose to wear a hijab.

It’s horrifying that we have to take something as trivial as hair and

make it into a huge issue. Whether one’s hair is straight, curly, wavy, blonde, brown, blue, in a hijab, under a scarf or flowing free shouldn’t immediately label them as “unprofessional” or “unusual.”

The other instance of cultural erosion I want to touch on is one we should all be familiar with. It involves the whitewashing of casts in movies dealing with Egyptians.

There seems to be a modern trend toward disbelieving that Egyptians are indeed African, and that Egyptians who have emigrated to the U.S. are African-American. I’ve had people tell me that Egyptians can’t possibly be African or black because many of them are Muslim. I often wonder if they realize how ridiculous this sounds. Egypt is part of Africa. Therefore Egyptians are African. And certain religions aren’t associated with one specific race.

Moreover, I think the reason we see whitewashing is due to a refusal to acknowledge the accomplishments the Egyptians contributed to our modern culture. Egypt was one of the most successful ancient civilizations, and probably the most successful of its time. Yes, it was at times plagued by corruption and weak leaders, but what ancient civilization wasn’t?

Egypt’s obelisks (which are actually replicas of those found in Axum, or what is now Ethiopia) are the basis for the Washington Monument. They developed a calendar that’s eerily close to our present one and kohl, which is what they used for eyeliner, is still popular today. They were one of the first civilizations to begin tattooing individuals. Finally, Egypt was the first civilization to record their medical writings, and had cures for many diseases that plagued their people.

Yes, these are only two examples of so-called cultural erosion, but I believe they’re the most prevalent, and the easiest to understand. Cultural erosion continues, but if we’re honest about these instances, we can change that.

We live in such a wonderfully diverse society and attend a school that maintains its own brand of diversity. So when I straighten my hair, and see someone else wearing their beautiful natural hair, I hope we are seen in the same way: as beautiful.

Briana Ellison is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Briana at ellisobr@dukes.jmu.edu.

Stitch by stitch

Professor Rebecca Lustig brings Broadway experience to Forbes costume shop



MARSHAL RIGGS / THE BREEZE

Senior dance major Melany Schwarz (left) and Professor Rebecca Lustig share a laugh in the costume shop. Lustig has worked on Broadway and Off West End in London.

By **YASMINE MAGGIO**
The Breeze

For costume designer Rebecca Lustig, the stitches haven't always followed the pattern.

The assistant professor of costume design went to the University of California, Santa Cruz for her undergraduate degree with the intention of becoming a lawyer. After pursuing federal work study for a job in the costume shop, largely because it paid more than any of the other jobs on campus, Lustig quickly discovered her passion.

"I didn't really understand that there was such a thing as a costume designer until I went to college," Lustig said. "When I was signing up for classes my first quarter at school, I was going through the schedule of classes and there was an introduction to costume design class that fulfilled the arts requirement. I signed up for that and I kind of just never left the theater complex again."

Lustig went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts in costume design from the University of California, San Diego. Following graduation, she packed her bags and moved to New York City.

"Sometimes you just have to jump," Lustig said. "I was a freelance costume designer in New York City for about nine years. I ended up doing a lot of assisting work and associate design work for big Broadway shows."

Some shows that Lustig worked on included "LoveMusik," a 2007 Broadway musical, and "Paradise Found," a 2010 Off West End musical in London. Most notably, she has had the opportunity to work on both a Broadway production and two national tours of "Billy Elliot The Musical."

Buying all the shoes was one of Lustig's bigger responsibilities for the "Billy Elliot The Musical" national tours.

"You have no idea how many pairs of shoes there were," Lustig said. "Those kids grow out of those slippers. If you fit them in shoes at the beginning of rehearsal, by the time the show opens none of them fit anymore."

The job of an assistant has various aspects to it, such as shopping, helping the designer pick fabrics and find costume pieces, and attending fittings with the actors. But the job of a designer involves much more.

"The very first thing you do is read the script; you get to know the text really well," Lustig said. "Then you have preliminary conversations with the director to get an idea of what their version of the story is, what is important about

that story to them. You start having a conversation via images."

For her work as a designer at JMU, this process helps Lustig find out what each character will be wearing throughout the show. She then starts to make rough sketches and eventually moves on to make color sketches. Once this is done, Lustig must then figure out the materials she needs to make the clothing.

"She's really good at working out the battle plan and how we're going to get things done," Kathleen Conery, costume shop manager at Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, said. "She's very good at plans, schedules, deadlines and coming up with alternate solutions when necessary."

While Lustig enjoyed her time in New York City, she was constantly out of town working on shows, much to her husband's disappointment.

So she started looking for something else.

She found her current job at JMU in 2012, fulfilling her other love of teaching. She has taught classes such as Costume Design, Performance Production and Introduction to Theatre.

"I actually met Rebecca through my freshman year Visual Aspects class," Steven Marks, a senior theatre major, said. "I came in wanting to be an actor, but through taking that class with Rebecca, she introduced me to the world of design and convinced me that I'm not actually an actor at all; I'd rather be a designer."

Lustig also works closely with the students who work in the costume shop.

"We aim to produce the best possible results, but understanding that it will come from beginners' hands," Conery said. "Even though Rebecca has worked professionally on Broadway with huge professional costume construction shops, she understands that there are students here and they are learning."

Lustig's passion for costume design has opened up a world of opportunities. It's what keeps her going every day.

"I think I'm like a lot of artists in that I'd rather be standing at my drafting table painting than pretty much doing almost anything else in the world," Lustig said. "You're always getting to create new things and throw them out into the world. You know the old saying, 'If you do what you love, you never work a day in your life?' I think that's pretty true for a lot of people who teach and a lot of people who make art; that's what we want to do with our time."

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Rapid-fire comedy

Student comedy troupe New & Improv'd uses a mixture of games and scenes to get laughs



ALEXIS MILLER / CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

By **TERESA CUMMINGS**
contributing writer

One would usually not expect to see a trio of human bears stalked by quirky children coveting a smoked ham — unless, of course, it was an improvised acting exercise.

Each week, Taylor Down Under's stage becomes the playground for the imagination of the most dangerous resource on earth: a college student's mind.

New & Improv'd is JMU's student improv comedy troupe. Improv is short for improvisation, a type of acting that forces the actors to think on their feet. There's no script and very little rehearsal.

To ensure the audience that none of the performance is pre-rehearsed, the acting troupe will perform scenes only at the audience's request.

"Everything we do is off the top of our heads," said Diego Salinas, a sophomore theatre major and New & Improv'd treasurer. "Nothing is rehearsed; every time we do a show, we have no idea what we are doing."

The group depends entirely on each other; if anything starts to fall apart, another member of the troupe must be able to pick up the slack.

"We learn to be comfortable together as team members," Logan Brown, a senior theatre major, said. Brown compares it to The CW's "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

The group's performance usually consists of a series of acting games where the goals of the performers change on a whim.

"There aren't necessarily any rules of improv," Brown said.

The troupe waltzes on stage through the audience. Teaming with anticipation, they spring to attention as scene requests are rapidly fired at them from the public.

"Do a scene with a monkey! Do a scene on a farm! Make the story in outer space! Have him propose with an onion ring!"

As the actors portray an everyday scene at a burger stand, they hear a shout and have to spring into action — suddenly there are two astronauts in space. Two distinct storylines, flipped and switched in the blink of an eye. These are only a few of the seemingly

unrelated ideas the audience wants the troupe to perform.

Each game the troupe chooses to perform is different from the next. One of the more involved games is "Pan Left, Pan Right." The object of the game is to perform different storylines for the audience. Four actors in pairs circumvent the stage depicting different scenes decided by the audience, switching between the scenes at the will of the buzzer, usually operated by a designated master of ceremonies.

In addition to keeping each storyline straight, the actors must connect each of the different scenes by incorporating the last line said from the previous scene into the next one.

"Freeze," another improv game, involves two actors who portray a suggestion from the audience until someone yells out "Freeze!" From there, another actor must take the place of the last actor and create a new scene based off the last line spoken and last pose.

A crowd favorite is "Gibberish Murder Mystery." In this game, four actors must solve a murder. The murder weapon, location and victim's identity are decided by the audience. One actor becomes the audience's voice by "witnessing" the murder, acting out each part of the mystery using only gibberish and motioning to another actor, the detective, who just arrives at the scene of the crime. To let the witness know that the detective solved the crime, the detective must do something drastic that surprises the entire crowd. Then the detective becomes the witness, and the next actor comes in.

"It's a lot of fun," Brown said. "What we do is pretty big — people use our craft to develop better public speaking skills."

New & Improv'd plans to perform in Taylor Down Under every Friday night and is looking into having a Saturday night show as well.

"The beauty of improv is how everything you do makes sense in the world you create on stage," Macy Pniewski, a junior English major and member of New & Improv'd, said. "There are no mess-ups, there is nothing to mess up."

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Alex Jacobs (top), a sophomore philosophy and communication studies double major and Abigail Moore, a senior media arts and design major, perform as Bugs Bunny from "Space Jam" and Chuckie Finster from "Rugrats."



SAM TAYLOR / THE BREEZE
Local DJ Ronnie “iRon Lion” Brandon performs his first Xtreme reggae night at Dave’s Taverna Express last Wednesday, Oct. 28. Although only two people attended, Brandon hopes to grow his audience.

Traveling reggae DJ iRon Lion performs weekly concert at local restaurant

By KATE FORMELLER
contributing writer

As the semester approaches crunch time, some may find themselves desperately singing “every little thing gonna be all right.” And when it’s time for a break, one that includes the soothing sounds of Bob Marley, Dave’s Taverna Express on Port Republic Road now has a reggae night every Wednesday that may fit the bill.

The popular restaurant is now featuring an “Xtreme” reggae night every Wednesday. iRon Lion, a musician and DJ named Ronnie Brandon, will host and occasionally bring in live bands. His mixes will feature Bob Marley, Steel Pulse, SOJA and Toots and the Maytals.

His stage name came from the popular Jamaican language, Patois.

“They add an ‘I,’ everybody is an ‘I,” Brandon said. “It kind of creates a unity vibe.”

Likewise, Bob Marley had a popular song “Iron, Lion, Zion” so that is where the Lion comes from and the word Ron in “iRon” represents his own name.

To “let the kids know” about popular reggae bands coming to the area, Brandon emphasizes the importance of community support.

“All student support is crucial,” Brandon said. “I need bands calling me. I need fraternities or sororities.”

In the past, Brandon brought SOJA, a Grammy-nominated

reggae band from Arlington, Virginia, to the city of Harrisonburg. Together they performed two shows a year over a four-year period. Now, Brandon is trying to bring the positive vibes back.

However, like many performers, he started out small.

Brandon first started performing when he was a kid in Chicago. He went to high school right here in Harrisonburg and started performing in town.

“My favorite part of performing is pleasing people and seeing people have a good time ... I just want it to be giving,” Brandon said.

As a result, he decided to donate a portion of the proceeds to various local charities, such as the Boys and Girls Club.

However, the customers were nowhere to be found at the first reggae night.

As one walked into Dave’s Taverna Express last Wednesday night, there was an excited, eager-eyed DJ playing songs from classic reggae artists, such as Bob Marley. The mellow atmosphere instantly put one into a relaxing trance.

The outside was lit up with dazzling lights, but since it had been raining, he set up indoors. Inside, the tables were set and ready awaiting customers while the empty dance floor awaited dancers. Brandon continued to play music in hopes of the arrival of some last-minute music lovers. Yet, nobody came, except for two males who headed straight to the bar.

However by spreading the word, Brandon aims to drastically increase the attendance rate. He hopes to make reggae

night trendy and cutting edge.

“Since we reopened, this will be our first reggae night,” Jeff Funk, the front-house manager of Dave’s Taverna Express, said.

Their goal is to make Dave’s Taverna Express a popular music venue for music lovers.

“We just want people who kind of enjoy music to come in here and enjoy what people have to offer and give something different; you do not see a lot of reggae downtown,” Funk said.

Before the creation of reggae night, there were slim to none reggae music venues available in Harrisonburg.

Brandon has performed all over Virginia, Washington, D.C., Maryland and even North Carolina. His wife has always been a major support system.

They have been together for four years and have been married for three. She works night shifts as a nurse, so she tries to see him perform whenever possible. She’s his biggest fan and supporter.

“My hope for reggae night is more people,” Tonya said.

Brandon’s hope is to cater specifically to the JMU community.

“This is all about JMU,” Brandon said. “That’s why my #jmu reggae is what I need people to see.”

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COOKIES | Insomnia Cookies attempted to buy out Campus Cookies

from front

“We were flattered by their buyout offer — they saw something very special,” Davidson said. “The terms and timing didn’t align, and there’s nothing I love more than the working on the creative canvas that is Campus Cookies.”

Each Campus Cookie averages at \$1.25 with over 20 flavors to choose from, each cookie is baked to order and delivered to the customer’s door.

According to Altamura, the most popular Insomnia Cookie flavors include: Chocolate Chunk, a cookie filled with chunks of rich chocolate inside a chocolate cookie, and the S’mores Deluxe, which is a campfire classic packed with chocolate pieces, marshmallows and graham crackers baked into a chocolate cookie.

The cookies average at about \$1.45, while deluxe, or bigger cookies, cost \$2.95.

In honor of the grand opening of Insomnia Cookies in Harrisonburg later this month, the bakery will be offering a free cookie to all of the customers who present the “free cookie coupon” at the store which is located on University Boulevard.

“I’m excited for Insomnia Cookies to come to JMU,” Kristi Monte, a sophomore music education major, said. “I like Campus Cookies for their prices, and for their coupons and deals that I get in my email, so if Insomnia Cookies offers deals like that, I would be open to it.”

It’ll be up to the members of the community to decide where to go to satisfy their cookie cravings.

“It’s inevitable to have competition to some degree, and we’re certainly in a good position to handle the situation,” Davidson said.

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IT'S A BUSY WEEKEND

Check out this weekend's postseason schedule on page 10 and follow @TheBreezeSports on Twitter for updates.

SWIMMING & DIVING (5-0)



JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Junior diver Olivia Lehman prepares to enter the pool during Tuesday afternoon's practice. JMU's swimming and diving team is coming off a sweep at last weekend's CAA Pod meet.

Camaraderie boosts JMU's swimming and diving team off to a perfect 5-0 start to its 2015-16 campaign

By **ROBERT WILLIAMS**
The Breeze

JMU's swimming and diving team is on an aquatic ambush, working to splash away all contenders.

Last Sunday, the Dukes swept all opposing teams in the Colonial Athletic Association Pod meet, moving to a perfect 5-0 record for the season.

"I think Pod set us up for a really good start to the season," senior swimmer Carli Molano said. "It's definitely very motivating, competing against people in our conference and getting the atmosphere ready for CAAs."

Head coach Dave Pedersen is impressed with not only the win, but also with how close the team has become.

"If I had to pinpoint one thing, I think our team dynamic is stronger than it's been in recent pasts," Pedersen said. "What this group of women are doing really, really well is that they're figuring out how to be a cohesive unit and how they perform best."

The season began Oct. 10 with a win against La Salle University, 181-116. From there, the Dukes didn't let up, defeating Liberty University (155-145) on Oct. 17. In the Pod meet, JMU defeated the University of Delaware (192-160), the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (255-98) and the College of William & Mary

(202-145).

While this start excites the team, it also seems to be aware of the hard work that it took to get to this point. It all starts in practice.

"We always hope to come off strong," senior diver Carly Alexander said. "We train really hard and it's showing."

According to diving head coach Becky Benson, strategies and ground rules were established before competition was a factor.

"At the very start of the season, we set the expectation bar for individual accountability higher," Benson said. "That has trickled down to the teammates holding each other more accountable, whether at practice, trying harder or at meets getting outside of themselves and cheering for others."

Although placed together, swimming and diving differ heavily from each other. Swimming is more endurance based and requires constant, repetitive movement while diving relies strongly on precision and agility.

According to Benson, the pool itself is the only thing linking the two sports.

"There's nothing similar between the two sports, except water," Benson said. "Diving is basically gymnastics in water and swimming is like running a marathon, but in water."

Aside from the differences, the swimmers and divers maintain meaningful relationships with each other.

"This is my favorite year so far in terms of the energy we have," senior swimmer Amanda Presgraves said. "I think everyone meshes extremely well and it's amazing being a part of this team."

The team camaraderie isn't limited to just what goes on in the pool. If a teammate is having an off day, it's not uncommon for other members to reach out in a concerned manner.

"You can tell if someone is being quiet or when they're upset," junior diver Olivia Lehman said. "We just know each other really well, so we can figure that out."

With the teams' successes so far, the main goal is to keep both together as a unit.

"I think the biggest thing that they are really figuring out is how to be a family and how to be a group that laughs together, works together, trains hard," Pedersen said. "We try to make sure the swimmers know what the divers are doing [and] the divers know what the swimmers are doing."

The swimming and diving team will split up for the next two meets. Diving will compete in the three-day Nike Cup starting on Thursday, Nov. 19 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Swimming will compete in the three-day Frank Elm Invitational in Piscataway, New Jersey on Friday, Nov. 20.

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FOOTBALL (7-2)

Assessing the Dukes

A bye week evaluation of where JMU football stands

By **MATT WEYRICH**
The Breeze

The Dukes (7-2, 4-2 Colonial Athletic Association) enter their bye week as losers of two straight games, with both losses coming at the hands of CAA rivals — the University of Richmond and the College of William & Mary. With JMU now in third place in the conference, its chances at competing for a conference championship are slimming. However, through nine games, the Dukes' season isn't over yet. How has their performance fared all around in 2015?

Offense: A-

JMU has sported one of the most prolific offenses in the entire Football Championship Subdivision this season, ranking first in the nation in total offense.

While the loss of starting redshirt senior quarterback Vad Lee toward the end of the Oct. 24 matchup against Richmond is certainly going to take a toll on the Dukes' offensive production, sophomore quarterback Bryan Schor has stepped up in his place.

Lee finished the season having completed 164 of 240 pass attempts for 2,190 yards, 21 touchdowns and 10 interceptions, while adding 814 yards and eight touchdowns in 109 carries on the ground. Since filling in for Lee at the end of the Richmond game and starting at William & Mary, Schor has completed 21 of 33 passes for 300 yards, with two touchdowns and an interception.

In the running game, JMU has a duo of high-caliber running backs that have taken the country by storm. Redshirt sophomore Cardon Johnson and junior Khalid Abdullah have combined for 21 touchdowns and over 1,600 yards on the ground this season, the most by any pair of teammates in the FCS.

The offensive line has been no small contributor either, leading the CAA with the least sacks allowed (nine) while keeping up with the quick offensive tempo that the Dukes so heavily rely on.

Defense: C

The Dukes have had an up-and-down season on the defensive side of the ball, ultimately allowing 27.8 points and 401 yards per game. While JMU ranks near the bottom of the conference in both major categories, the overall defense has been about average over the course of the season.

JMU has allowed 44+ points in three different games in 2015, including the 59 points put up by

Richmond and the 44 by William & Mary.

"We started seven sophomores, three juniors and a senior [against William & Mary in Week 9]," head coach Everett Withers said at the weekly Fan and Press Luncheon at O'Neill's Grill on Monday. "That's a pretty young defense, so I have to be careful about getting impatient."

Contrarily, they have allowed less than 10 points on two occasions, highlighted by their 51-0 shutout win on the road against Elon University.

But the team has had little trouble getting to the quarterback, totaling 23 sacks on the year while forcing 15 turnovers, including eight interceptions. Redshirt sophomore linebacker Andrew Ankras leads the way for the Dukes with 9.5 sacks and four forced fumbles this season.

Perhaps the best defensive player on this unit has been fellow linebacker and team captain Gage Steele, a redshirt junior who leads the team with 78 tackles. In the secondary, redshirt junior cornerback Taylor Reynolds has three interceptions and 16 passes defended while junior safety Raven Greene has the lone pick-six for JMU in 2015.

Special Teams: B+

Coming off a game in which three field goals were blocked, the Dukes have struggled on special teams as of late. Losing standout freshman kick returner Charles Tutt to a season-ending leg injury two weeks ago hasn't done much to help, but the Dukes still have room to work with.

Kicker Ryan Maglio has made 50 out of 53 point after touchdown attempts this season, with 22 more attempts than any other kicker in the conference. He has converted nine out of 10 of his field goals, the highest percentage of any CAA kicker with at least 10 attempts.

Meanwhile, the Dukes have only been forced to punt on 27 different occasions so far this year, the fewest in the CAA. Redshirt junior punter Gunnar Kane has averaged 41.7 yards per punt, with only two touchbacks on the year.

JMU ranks third in the conference in average punt yard returns and fifth in kickoffs. The aforementioned Tutt led the way for the Dukes on kickoffs, having racked up 271 return yards and a touchdown in only seven chances after taking over the starting job.

Coaching: B-

Since accepting the head coach job prior to the start of the 2014 season, Withers has done wonders for the JMU football program. This season,

Report Card

Offense

A-

Defense

C

Special Teams

B+

Coaching

B-

KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

he's leading one of the most dominant and efficient offenses in the country, hoping to get the Dukes into the playoffs for a second consecutive year.

Play-calling on offense is all anyone could've hoped for. No one can argue with the success the team has had on that side of the ball, and Withers' play-calling with the help of first-year offensive coordinator Brett Elliott has been an integral facet of the team's success.

The team's biggest Achilles' heel has been penalties, as they have lost 794 yards on 80 penalties this season. That's 27 more penalties than any other team in the CAA. While that has yet to put a stop on this offense, it's certainly taken some points off the board.

Defensive coordinator Steve Sisa is in his first year at his position as well. Defensively, the preparation by the coaches has been evident with schemes designed to combat opposing offenses, but the results haven't been there. The defensive line coaches need to work with their players to make more of an impact in the passing game, and red zone stops have been something of a struggle for this JMU defense to produce.

After the break this week, the Dukes will travel to face another CAA foe in the Blue Hens of the University of Delaware on Nov. 14 in Newark, Delaware.

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SOCCER

Foley: 'I'd say it's business as usual with a bit more urgency.'



TOP Redshirt junior goalkeeper Kyle Morton punches a shot away during practice Tuesday. BOTTOM LEFT Freshman midfielder Marian Gertlitzki and sophomore forward Joe Vyner work on passing. BOTTOM RIGHT Redshirt sophomore defender Toby Appleton dribbles the ball downfield.

PHOTOS BY CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

from front

we can compete with anybody in the conference.”

One of JMU’s closely fought conference clashes came against the College of Charleston on Oct. 10 when it tied the Cougars 0-0 in double overtime. The Dukes like their chances of coming out of the match with a victory this time around on Saturday.

“We’ve got a good chance of winning, I really think we do,” sophomore forward Joe Vyner said. “We’ve got good weeks of training down.”

The Dukes hope to duplicate the success of last year’s team as it found a way to win three consecutive games and capture the conference tournament, which advanced the 2014 Dukes to the NCAA tournament where they fell to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the first round.

Last year, the Dukes were underdogs as well as the sixth seed out of six teams in the conference tournament. This year they come in as the fifth-seeded team. Thirteen players from last year’s team return this year and they hope to guide the underclassmen on the same path they followed to the championship last year.

“I’d say they kind of have the experience to take us through,” Vyner said. “Me being an upperclassman now, I’ve got to show some of that experience as well.”

With the postseason providing the Dukes with a sense of newfound life after a disappointing regular season record, they hope to focus on taking things one game at a time.

“Once you’ve made the tournament ... you take it one step at a time rather than maybe in season you’re kind of looking at the next couple of games trying to get at least three points a week or four points a week,” Vyner said. “I feel now we can just focus on one game.”

Being in a win or go home position won’t change how the Dukes prepare for their upcoming match against the College of Charleston this Saturday, but it creates a somewhat different mindset.

“We’ve tried to keep the game this Saturday very similar to any one of our matches,” Foley said. “You have a little bit more urgency, but you want to keep it very similar to how we’ve trained throughout the year ... I’d say it’s business as usual with a bit more urgency.”

The Dukes travel down to Charleston, South Carolina, to face the Cougars on Saturday at 7 p.m.

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COMMENTARY

DOUBLE TAKE

JT BARRETT'S SUSPENSION

The punishment is fair

Urban Meyer's hypocrisy is laughable

By **BLAKE GIUSTI**
The Breeze

Ohio State University quarterback J.T. Barrett was arrested last Friday for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Head coach Urban Meyer and Athletic Director Gene Smith have concluded that a fair punishment includes a one-game suspension and the revoking of J.T. Barrett’s scholarship for the summer term.

Meyer and Ohio State may encounter some criticism for giving Barrett a slap on the wrist, but I think this punishment is fair. The legal system will play its way out and Barrett will likely have to do service hours or something. He’s suspended for a game and he’ll have to pay for his summer session of school if he wants to practice with the team during its offseason workouts.

I guess it’s worth noting that, as a redshirt sophomore, Barrett does have the option to declare for the NFL draft after this season. I surely don’t see that happening, but if he did declare, Barrett would probably be picked somewhere close to the third round, especially in this quarterback-thin draft class, but I digress.

Let’s not forget that, according to ESPN, Barrett is a first-time offender. What do critics want Meyer and the Ohio State authorities to do? It would

be absurd to kick a first-time offender off the team for this. I know some colleges have a three-strike policy on alcohol-related incidents, so why should Barrett be kicked off the team or have a punishment exceeding what has been handed down by the university?

His one-game suspension will mean something. When you take away football from a guy who loves football, it hurts him. Barrett is a leader, and has shown maturity since the incident with his apologies to his teammates. A one-game suspension for a guy who has never had to serve a suspension since entering college will mean something to him.

Revoking his scholarship proves that Meyer is consistent, as he revoked scholarships from two players back in 2012 for a similar run-in with law enforcement.

I think Meyer has handled the situation well, and benching your starting quarterback just weeks after finally officially naming him the starter isn’t an easy call to make as a head coach. College kids make mistakes, and this is the time to learn from them. It would’ve been a shame for this to have a drastic effect on Barrett’s life. Too harsh of a punishment could’ve done just that.

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By **DANIEL WARE**
The Breeze

Over the weekend, Ohio State University starting quarterback J.T. Barrett was suspended for one game after being cited for operating a vehicle while impaired, which is the same thing as drunk driving, a DUI. Barrett is also just 20 years old, so one would think the punishment would be even more severe.

On Monday, reports originally surfaced that Barrett had lost his scholarship after the citation for OVI. But it turns out he’s just losing his summer aid, so all he has to do is pay for summer school and that’s it. I have a hard time believing that an average, underaged college student getting arrested for DUI would have such a lenient penalty.

The Ohio State suspension policy states that if a player is under 21 at the time of the charge, then the student athlete is subject to a two-week suspension from all activity and that the reinstatement should be at the discretion of the athletic director. Barrett only got a one-week suspension and his reinstatement was on the authority of head coach Urban Meyer, not athletic

director Gene Smith.

Meyer is one of the best college football coaches of the last 15 years. His on-field resume speaks for itself: an undefeated season at the University of Utah in 2004, national championships at the University of Florida in 2006 and 2008, and three straight seasons at Ohio State with 12 wins or more, culminating in last year’s national championship win against the University of Oregon. Off the field, however, Meyer has been a complete hypocrite.

The poor handling of the Barrett situation comes off the heels of an interview given just last week in which Meyer said if he was coaching former Florida State University quarterback Jameis Winston during the crab leg stealing incident, he would have dismissed Winston from the team.

It’s laughable that Meyer tried to pretend to be a disciplinarian when he’s literally the exact opposite. While Meyer was at Florida, he had more players arrested — 31 — than he had losses — 15. This most recent case, in my opinion, is more about how poor Meyer is at handling these types of situations.

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Colonial Athletic Association Tournament Play

Friday, 11/6

Field Hockey

CAA Semifinals

#1 JMU vs. #4 Drexel
3 p.m.
Harrisonburg, Va.

Women’s Soccer

CAA Semifinals

#4 JMU vs. #1 Hofstra
7 p.m.
Hempstead, N.Y.

Saturday, 11/7

Men’s Soccer

CAA Quarterfinals

#5 JMU vs. #4 Charleston
7 p.m.
Charleston, S.C.

Sunday, 11/8

Field Hockey

CAA Championship

Winner G1 vs. Winner G2
2 p.m.
Harrisonburg, Va.

Women’s Soccer

CAA Championship

Winner G3 vs. Winner G4
2:30 p.m.
Hempstead, N.Y.





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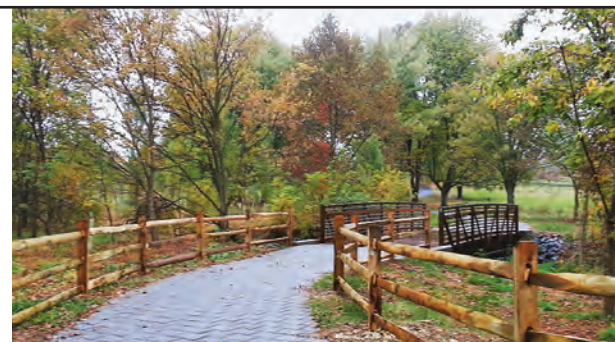


*For terms and conditions, go to www.jmu.edu/dining

STOP BY JEMMY’S, MR. CHIPS OR GRACE STREET MARKET TO LOAD UP ON SNACKS AND DRINKS. THEY HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND YOU CAN USE YOUR DINING DOLLARS!

Need to warm up? Grab a hot drink at:

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- Dunkin’ Donuts at Top Dog and Student Success Center
- Einstein Bros. Bagels
- Java City at Festival and Memorial Hall
- *Or have a quick snack at Auntie Anne’s!*





THE BLUESTONE TRAIL is open and links our community directly to campus through Purcell Park - making Pheasant Run more convenient than ever before.

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