



MENTALITY MATTERS

A look at where JMU women's basketball stands midway through the season

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University bans hoverboards in campus buildings

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THE LIFE AND TIMES OF D-HALL
A timeline of D-Hall's history

New year, new UREC

Expansion opens for students at start of spring semester



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNOR WOISARD

The UREC renovation and expansion will add or improve over 160,000 square feet of space when fully completed in August.

By **ALYSSA MILLER**
The Breeze

On Sunday, the University Recreation Center's newly constructed addition was debuted to the JMU student body. The extension, which totals 137,815 square feet of new space, nearly doubles the size of the original structure and will later include a renovation to the old portion of the building.

According to Eric Nickel, the director of university recreation, the student body response has been enthusiastic.

"One of the most rewarding parts was being there at 4:00 on Sunday, when the first students who had been waiting in line outside came in," Nickel said. "Just watching the looks on their faces as they saw the new place."

As previously reported by The Breeze, the combined expansion and renovation projects total approximately \$57 million.

The addition features expanded weight, fitness and cardio spaces; six new group fitness studios; new gym and court spaces; a second indoor track; an outdoor courtyard and a new

see **UREC**, page 3

WHAT'S NEW AND OPEN NOW?

- Weight, fitness and cardio spaces
- Six group fitness studios
- Three super multi-activity centers
- Indoor track
- Fitness/instructional pool and spa
- Outdoor courtyard

KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE

ATO loses charter

Fraternity violated FSL probation

By **CHRIS KENT**
The Breeze

Over the past five years at JMU, the student body has seen the closure and revocations of charters for several other Greek organizations, including Kappa Sigma, Delta Chi and Sigma Chi. The most recent is the Kappa Zeta chapter of Alpha Tau Omega.

Adam Lindberg, the associate director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, in conjunction with the Office of Residence Life and the fraternity's national headquarters revoked, ATO's charter at JMU on Nov. 19, 2015. According to Lindberg, this was due to violation of FSL policies.

"We were in communication, we were sort of working with the chapter," Lindberg said. "And ultimately, as the university saw fit, the [Office of Residence Life] came to a decision that the relationship that had transpired between the office and that particular organization wasn't positive."

According to a text message sent from Jake Merhige, a junior intelligence analysis major and the former president of the Kappa Zeta chapter of ATO, the fraternity was discharged after being reported for hosting a cookout with alcohol for Family Weekend.

In FSL's policies for citizenship and social responsibility, there are certain restrictions on alcohol, and guidelines for Greek life events. Under the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council Standards Policy, organizations have restrictions on large quantities of alcohol including kegs, trash cans or cases; as well as social events and weapon possession by members of the organization.

If there are any violations, it's up to FSL to discipline specific organization that broke policy. This can end in social probation, being kicked off campus or, as in ATO's case, having its charter revoked. According to Lindberg, on April 17, 2015, ATO was put on social probation for violation of Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council standards policy. When ATO later disobeyed the restrictions set by JMU, the University rescinded ATO's charter according to FSL policy.

see **ATO**, page 4

From Wilson Hall to City Hall

An inside look at Harrisonburg Mayor Chris Jones, a JMU alumnus

By **MIKE DOLZER**
The Breeze

On Sept. 17, 1999, a JMU senior led a group of about 65 students in a silent march around the Quad to address concerns, including the fact that Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday wasn't recognized as a university holiday.

Today, that student, Chris Jones, is Harrisonburg's mayor.

"That was a big moment and a big day," Jones said. "It was a very peaceful, quiet, organized march."

The protest was during former JMU President Linwood Rose's inauguration, which was declared a university holiday even though administration said it couldn't just add holidays, such as King's birthday. After the march, on Oct. 28, 1999, the University Council voted unanimously to cancel all classes on MLK Day beginning January 2001.

"I led and helped to organize that and I would say that was one of the biggest things," Jones said. "And for the last 15 years we've celebrated and observed King's birthday in a greater way by taking that day off campus-wide."

Starting his lifetime of leadership early on, Jones, a native of Danville, Virginia, served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia's Youth Division when he was just 15. He graduated from JMU in 2000 with a bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in

business. Upon returning to Harrisonburg a few years after graduation, Jones wanted to get involved again.

"I felt like there were a lot of groups in the community, including the student body of James Madison University, that were underrepresented when it came to local government," Jones said. "So I thought it would be wise to throw my hat in the ring in local government."

Jones won the mayoral election in November 2014, which was the first time he had ever run for public office. His victory wasn't a surprise to those who knew him.

"I knew he was always in a position where he could speak to others, so I knew he could do that as a pastor or in politics," Gary McCoy, Jones' resident adviser during the Transitions program the summer before his freshman year, said.

McCoy noted that something was different about Jones from the moment he met him.

"Even though he was a freshman, he would always hang out with the older folks — he has an older soul-type thing going on," McCoy said. "Instead of being just a regular freshman, he became the 'Freshman Sensation.'"

Many still call Jones the "Freshman Sensation" to this day, and he liked the nickname so much that it became his radio name when he took to the WXJM airwaves.

"I was the DJ Sensation, played the hottest in hip-hop,

see **MAYOR**, page 9



JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Mayor Chris Jones graduated from JMU in 2000 with a bachelor's degree in sociology.



CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

Junior guard Jackson Kent and head coach Matt Brady fist bump at practice.

Grades on the court

Assessing the Dukes halfway through the season

By **KEVIN ROMM**
The Breeze

After posting an impressive 10-3 non-conference record throughout the first few months of the season, the JMU men's basketball team has split its early Colonial Athletic Association schedule at 2-2, leaving it in a five-way tie for second place with a 12-5 overall record. Here's a look at where the Dukes stand about midway through the season.

Offense: B-

Despite averaging 75.8 points per game, JMU's biggest issue on offense has been consistency. With the exception of senior guard Ron Curry and maybe redshirt junior forward Dimitrije Cabarkapa, no JMU guard or forward has established himself as a prolific, game after game go-to guy who can put up consistent

scoring numbers.

"We are working diligently to achieve consistency but we've come back from Christmas break and we haven't played as well," head coach Matt Brady said.

Players such as junior guard Jackson Kent and junior forward Yohanny Dalember, who both averaged double-digits in scoring last year, have seen significant drops in production. Kent has averaged 7.1 points through the first half of the season while Dalember has added just 7.7 points. However, since the start of conference play on Dec. 31, Dalember is averaging just 3.5 points per game. In Dalember's defense, he did miss the first two games of the season due to a knee injury, which could be a reason for the inconsistent play.

"I don't know," stated Brady on Dalember's recent struggles. "I don't think he is necessarily favoring that knee but it may be

see **MBB**, page 11

The Breeze

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Event Calendar

Thursday, Jan. 14

- Senior Portraits @ Madison Union 405, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Throwback Thursdays @ The Artful Dodger, free with college ID, 9 p.m.
- Gonzalo Bergara Quartet @ Court Square Theatre, \$18, 8 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 15

- Film Screening of "Frame by Frame" @ Madison Union, room 404, 7 p.m.
- Women's Basketball vs. Drexel University @ Convocation Center, 7 p.m.
- HarrisWINGburg Swing Dance @ The Church of the Incarnation, 5 p.m., \$5, beginner lesson 7:30 to 8 p.m., dance 8 to 10 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 16

- Dr. Wang Zhi of Xi'an International Studies University, China presents "China's New Silk Road Strategy and Diplomacy Toward Central Asia" @ Madison Union Ballroom, 2 p.m.
- Dr. Timothy Brook of the University of British Columbia presents "Asian International Relations Before 'International Relations'" @ Madison Union Ballroom, 6 p.m.
- Women's swimming and diving vs. University of Richmond @ Savage Natatorium, noon

Sunday, Jan. 17

- Women's Basketball vs. Northeastern @ Convocation Center, 2 p.m.
- The James Badfellows/ New Boss/Psychic Subcreatures @ The Golden Pony, 18+, \$5, 9 p.m.
- Dodger After Dark @ The Artful Dodger, 21+, \$5, 10 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 18

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day Community Program @ Boys & Girls Club of Harrisonburg & Rockingham County, 3 to 5 p.m.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day Formal Program: Diane Nash, guest speaker @ Wilson Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
- Blurry Woods/Heavens Die/ Sailing Club @ The Golden Pony, 18+, \$5

Tuesday, Jan. 19

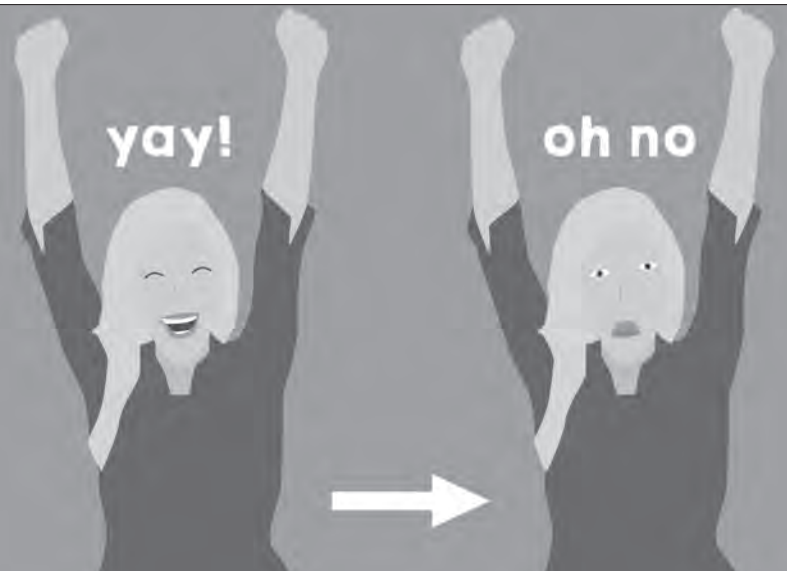
- D.E.E.P. Impact Cultural Series, "Selma" film @ Grafton-Stovall Theatre, 7 p.m.
- Mo' Money, Less Problems Budget Workshop @ Festival Highlands Room, 7 to 9 p.m.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast @ Boys & Girls Club of Harrisonburg & Rockingham County, \$5 donation suggested, 8 to 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

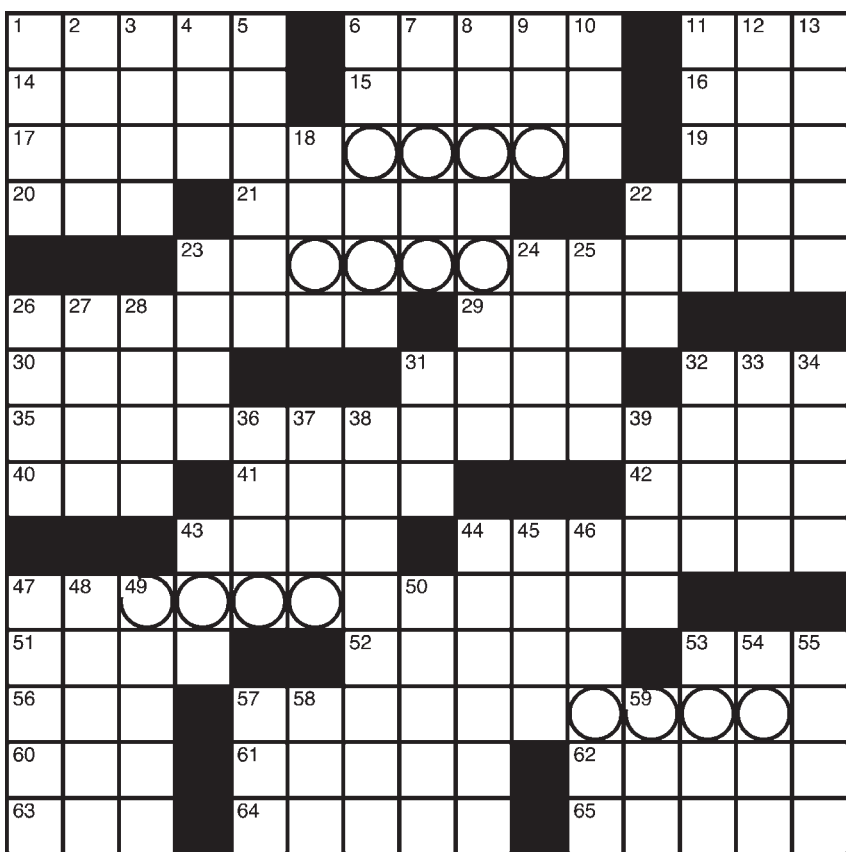
- D.E.E.P. Impact Dialogue, "Justice or Just Us" @ Madison Union Ballroom, 7 p.m.
- Aquila Theatre "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" @ Mainstage Theatre, Forbes Center, regular \$38, JMU faculty/staff \$36, 8 p.m.
- Trae Tha Truth/DJ Ryan Clark/Grayling Skyy/Lady Taj @ The Golden Pony, \$12 presale, \$15 at the door, 9 p.m.

CARTOON: HAVING A SENIOR MOMENT

When you realize it's your last syllabus week...



KELSEY HARDING / THE BREEZE



By Alan Olschwang

1/16/16

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Across

- 1 Home of the Great Sphinx
- 6 French thinkers?
- 11 Priestly garb
- 14 Charter
- 15 Discharge
- 16 __ chi
- 17 Well-cast "Into the Woods" actress?
- 19 It's used for some trips
- 20 Bank customer acct. datum
- 21 Tackle box items
- 22 It may have a nice bouquet
- 23 Well-cast "An Education" actress?
- 26 Like the Detroit Lions in 2008
- 29 Financial pg. topics
- 30 Clod breakers
- 31 __ arguments
- 32 Spat
- 35 Director's explanation as to why this puzzle's actresses were well-cast?
- 40 Familiar saint?
- 41 Gets ready to fire
- 42 "Zounds!"
- 43 Cable service extras
- 44 "Spoon River Anthology" poet
- 47 Well-cast "Duplicity" actress?
- 51 Fissionable particle

- 52 "Sorry, __ go!"
- 53 Whale watcher's dream
- 56 Software issue
- 57 Well-cast "Birds of America" actress?
- 60 Bud
- 61 "Is that __?": challenging words
- 62 Quad Cities resident, maybe
- 63 Rule of crime writing
- 64 Actresses Diane and Cheryl
- 65 Address to a boy
- Down
- 10'Neill's "Desire Under the __"
- 2 Heist units
- 3 Unlikely story
- 4 Subj. involving cognitive development
- 5 "Spill it!"
- 6 Aquarium fish
- 7 Wetlands wader
- 8 Top choice
- 9 Legal conclusion?
- 10 Brake fluid brand
- 11 Low-tech GPS?
- 12 Stock holder?
- 13 Former senator known as "Amtrak Joe"
- 18 Totals
- 22 LBJ and Nixon, e.g.
- 23 Einstein's second wife

- 24 Hawaiian food fish
- 25 Lawn problem
- 26 Blender button
- 27 Bit
- 28 Brooding spot
- 31 Iron__
- 32 Extreme road response
- 33 "Rubáiyát" poet
- 34 Brings together
- 36 California's __ Beds National Monument
- 37 Way to get to N.Y.'s Citi Field
- 38 Response to happy news
- 39 Brings home
- 43 Lacking luster
- 44 Scotland yards?
- 45 Pretentious
- 46 Balanced state
- 47 "Star Wars" villain
- 48 Reversal
- 49 Start a telecommuting session
- 50 Advisory body
- 53 Puppet
- 54 Put-act link
- 55 Designer label initials
- 57 Evil computer of film
- 58 NW state
- 59 Court

Find the answers online at: breezejmu.org/sites/crossword_answers

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.

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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

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Back to the future

Hoverboards on campus could become a thing of the past with new university ban



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIN WILLIAMS / THE BREEZE

JMU recently announced a ban on "self-balancing scooters," commonly referred to as hoverboards. The ban was in response to reports of hoverboards catching fire and causing injuries to their owners. The university has said it will stay up-to-date on safety recommendations and will follow guidelines set in place by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the State Fire Marshal.

By **GRACE THOMPSON**
contributing writer

Some JMU students may now have one less option for navigating campus. JMU announced through a Madison Alert on Jan. 7 that it was banning hoverboards from campus buildings.

Bill Wyatt, JMU's senior director of communications and university spokesman, explained that the hoverboards can be unsafe and pose a fire hazard when charged for too long.

"Hoverboards, also known as self-balancing scooters and their chargers are prohibited from being used or stored in JMU-owned buildings," Wyatt said. "The decision was made by JMU's Office of Public Safety based on the Consumer Product Safety Commission as well as a recommendation from the State Fire Marshal's Office."

The CPSC notes that while hoverboards do pose a

potential fire hazard, their risk of injury is high as well.

According to a statement from the CPSC, they have "received dozens of reports of injuries from hospital emergency rooms that we have contracts with and they continue to feed us real-time data."

Paul Skudlarek, a junior justice studies major, owns a hoverboard and disagrees with the decision.

"I think it's unfair," Skudlarek said. "Now I can't ride it on campus when I want to."

Skudlarek thinks incidents of hoverboards causing issues are rare and preventable.

"They have been documented to catch fire but I think that extenuating circumstances made the hoverboards malfunction," Skudlarek said, "I have had mine for a while and make sure to charge it for the appropriate amount of time. So, I always feel like it's pretty safe."

In an article on wired.com, Jay Whitacre, a Professor at

Carnegie Mellon University, said the batteries within the hoverboards are the real issue.

"When the batteries are charged, a lot of heat is generated inside the cells and this leads to electrolyte boiling, the rupture of the cell casing, and then a significant fire," Whitacre said.

According to an email from the Office of the Provost that was sent to faculty members, it isn't just JMU taking these precautionary measures.

"JMU joins a growing list of colleges and universities around the country to prohibit the use, charging and storage of these devices in campus buildings," the email reads. "JMU isn't alone in taking these precautionary measures either. Other colleges and universities include George Washington University, American University, Kean University, Ohio

see **HOVERBOARDS**, page 4

IN BRIEF

HARRISONBURG, VA.

EMU vice president resigns after arrest

On Monday, Luke Hartman, the former Eastern Mennonite University vice president for enrollment resigned from his position following a Jan. 8 arrest on charges of solicitation of prostitution. The arrest was made in an undercover operation coordinated between the Harrisonburg Police Department and the Rockingham Sheriff's Department, according to WHSV-TV.

EMU president Loren Swartzendruber asked for prayers "for all those affected during this difficult time," in a press release.

According to WHSV-TV, police have formally charged 10 people ranging in age from 19 to 75 years old with solicitation, including Hartman. The HPD said this was the largest sting operation for solicitation that it has conducted.

SPCA to host community meeting

The Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA is hosting a "town hall meeting" on Thursday at 6 p.m. for those interested in sheltering animals and general animal care.

According to a press release from Mary Hope-Vass, Harrisonburg's public information officer, the local SPCA will discuss its projected needs for the next five years as well as animal welfare in the City of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Animal advocates and citizens are welcome to attend the meeting, and there will be an open floor for those who would like to speak. Representatives of Animal Welfare Management Services will facilitate the meeting, according to the press release.

The meeting is being held at the City Municipal Building in the City Council Chambers at 409 S. Main Street. For more information contact the Harrisonburg City Manager's office at (540) 432-7701, or the Rockingham County Administrator's office at (540) 564-3012.

UREC | Grand opening will coincide with anniversary



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNOR WOISARD

The track in the new UREC addition is one-sixth of a mile, and is intended to be used for jogging and running. The old track, which is one-tenth of a mile, will now be used for walking and slower jogging, according to the JMU website.

from front

recreational fitness pool and spa, according to the JMU website.

According to Nickel, He and associate directors Steve Bobbitt and Bob Golson worked with project manager Glen Wayland to envision the new space. They decided what rooms and equipment to add based on feedback from JMU students and faculty, as well as information they collected when touring renovated recreation centers at several colleges and universities. They also hired two architectural firms and a contracting firm to help with research and to design and build the space.

Since the addition was opened, Nickel has seen a significant increase in the number of students coming to UREC.

"We set a record ... the first [full] day it was open, on Monday: 5,552 students in one day," Nickel said. "We'd never broken 5,000 before."

Lauren McGlaughlin, a senior communication sciences and disorders major and an employee at UREC, believes the student body is benefitting from the expansion.

"Everyone I know that doesn't usually work out, like, ever, is working out," McGlaughlin said. "It's been so busy and we've gotten great reviews with our variety of stuff that

we have."

Now that the addition is complete, the construction crew has begun work on the next phase of the renovation, which involves changing much of the function of the original UREC building. According to Nickel, it is important to keep the building open throughout the renovation.

"One of the conditions that we gave the contractor when we hired them is we said, 'You can't take away spaces. We can't have things down when we're building the new,'" Nickel said. "Because there's still students coming through here ... And they can't just not have a rec

center."

However, this stipulation is not without its challenges. According to Nickel, there was a small flood in the building when a water line was cut recently, and on Monday night an employee pulled the fire alarm when they smelled propane, evacuating the building.

"Inevitably when you're constructing a building this big, you're gonna have things like that happen," Nickel said, adding that the gas smell was from "a gas heater heating an unheated space" during construction and posed no real threat.

The old building, which will be fully renovated by May and open for student use in August, will include features such as a new adventure center with several bouldering walls and a second freestanding rock wall, a bike repair center and a wet-dry combination room for life-guard and CPR training. There will also be a demonstration kitchen for educating students about cooking healthier meals.

"You can't really address total personal wellness effectively without addressing nutrition," Nickel said. "Talking about healthy product substitution and how to use better, healthier ingredients, I think, is a great opportunity to educate folks on things that will be important to them later in life."

The grand opening for the fully renovated building is scheduled for Oct. 7, which will be the 20th anniversary of UREC. In the meantime, many students seem to be making the most of the added facilities.

"I think it was the best thing to happen to JMU," Gemma Bronson-Howard, a junior marketing major, said. Bronson-Howard especially likes the new running track, which is one-sixth of a mile, as opposed to the old one-tenth of a mile track.

Ultimately, Nickel hopes the new-and-improved UREC will have a positive effect on the entire student body.

"Our goal is to get 100 percent of the student body in a healthy lifestyle habit before they leave here," Nickel said. "And if this center makes that happen, we'll be successful."

CONTACT Alyssa Miller at breezenews@gmail.com.

A positive influence

New dean of Graduate School discusses diversity and importance of research

By **KATIE O'BRIEN**
contributing writer

Jie Chen is the new dean of the Graduate School at JMU. Before coming to JMU, Chen worked as the dean of the Graduate School at the University of Idaho for four years. He has also done research and written a book about the Chinese middle class called, "A Middle Class Without Democracy: Economic Growth and the Prospects for Democratization in China." In addition he has won awards for his teaching, faculty research and administrative work, including the Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

Why did you decide to become a dean?

I started the position of a dean about four years ago at the University of Idaho. When I decided to apply for the position as dean, I wanted to have a bigger positive influence on more people. Before I became dean, I was the Department Chair at Old Dominion University, so I knew what the Department Chair could do to influence the department and contribute to the community. After several years I realized, maybe I could make more contributions to a bigger community as the graduate dean of the university. I also really enjoy my administrative work and I enjoy making positive contributions to a large community such as a university, so that's why I decided to become a dean.

Why did you decide to come to JMU?

There are several reasons. First, I think this university has great potential to become a nationally renowned university for both graduate and undergraduate education. Second, when I worked at University of Idaho, I noticed that the university and the state environment were different than Virginia. I think the Commonwealth of Virginia as a state does enjoy a better environment for higher education. Third, I knew JMU has a good reputation. I want to be closely associated with a university with a good reputation and I actually want to further help this university with its reputation.

What do you look for when recruiting JMU graduate students?

We have recruited and will continue to recruit talented and diverse students. We do have talented graduate students here, but I would like to emphasize diversity. We probably need to make more of an effort to recruit diverse students from different socioeconomic statuses and different ethnic, racial, national



JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

Jie Chen is the new dean of the Graduate School at JMU. Chen graduated from a university in China and attended graduate school at Monterey Institute of International Studies in California.

and cultural backgrounds. Our current graduate students are pretty well-prepared, but we need more diversity. I think diversity has to do with our mission of the university, which is to provide students of various backgrounds with high quality education. Secondly, I think that diversity has to do with excellence. The diversity of the student body will increase the quality of the student body and enhance the quality of our graduate education by bringing in different ideas and opportunities for students and faculty.

Why do you place such a strong emphasis on research and teaching for your graduate students?

It's not just my personal emphasis, but also the emphasis of the university. Research definitely is and should be part of the graduate education. It is actually one of the most important characteristics of the graduate education, because a graduate education is designed to help a student understand not only what is going on in the world, but also understand how

research is done and how they can create knowledge through research – not just apply knowledge. Teaching is also very important for the needs of the job market and for training. We hope that most of the students, if not all the students can have teaching experience, because some students of mine try to enter the job market and try to find a job that requires teaching responsibilities. Secondly, the teaching capability and training in teaching in graduate education can help students in many skills, such as organizational skills, communication skills and people skills.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

As long as we work together, we can improve graduate education and achieve our common goals in graduate education. Graduate education and undergraduate education can reinforce each other at this university.

CONTACT Katie O'Brien at obrie3ke@dukes.jmu.edu.

ATO | National board involved in decision

from front

A JMU ATO alumnus and former executive member who requested to remain anonymous was disappointed with the news, but felt that ATO should be held accountable for its actions.

"I think as a fraternity you need to be accountable, at the end of the day," the alumnus said. "We were on social probation. Did we violate a couple of those social rules, in the report it says it does. So if you violated it, you violated it. You have to own up, you have to be accountable."

He continued to say he didn't believe the punishment fit the crime, given ATO's history at JMU. Since ATO's arrival at JMU in 2007 it has been active in the community.

According to Merhige, the Kappa Zeta chapter has logged 1,600 hours of volunteer service since last April and raised over \$10,000 for Relay For Life. Merhige said that was more than any other JMU organization and that in the same text Merhige and ATO hopes to register as a nonprofit organization in the future to be recognized by JMU campus.

"It was obviously a very big disappointment and I didn't agree at all with the outcome of the decisions, and I know a lot of people were on the same page," Merhige said. "But I'm still very optimistic and excited for the future. I definitely hope to sustain all of the values and morals we learned along the way to remain strong and organized."

Revoking a charter involves the national board of a Greek organization. Wynn Smiley, ATO's national chief executive officer, said his organization and the JMU campus worked in conjunction to find a conclusion to the situation. The anonymous source felt like alumni of ATO were left out of the loop from FSL and they believe alumni could have intervened to help the chapter before it lost its charter. The blow was also felt by other Greek life members too.

"When someone violates a social probation, I don't think the end result would be to kick off campus because it is unproductive to the fraternity. It's actually the most destructive thing you can do," Dustin Hux, junior computer science major and president of Pi Kappa Phi, said. "That being said, I do stand behind our Fraternity and Sorority Life officials. I believe they handled the matter to the best of their ability."

According to Lindberg, ATO had gone through an appeals process to avoid losing its charter, but had lost that process last semester. According to an IFC judicial document, an appeal must be granted by the IFC advisor when new evidence is provided with sufficient explanation from the fraternity. From there the fraternity will be tried by IFC court, which consists of members and peers.

Still, Smiley doesn't see this as the end to ATO at JMU.

"[JMU] is an important campus for us," Smiley said. "We believe it is mutually beneficial for students who would like to join fraternity life or ATO, and certainly for ATO to benefit from students. So some point in the future we plan on being back."

CONTACT Chris Kent at breezejmu@gmail.com.

HOVERBOARDS | Ban is consistent with many universities



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIN WILLIAMS / THE BREEZE

Over winter break, JMU sent a Madison Alert notifying students that hoverboards will no longer be allowed in campus buildings or residence halls. Any hoverboards found in campus buildings will be confiscated.

from page 3

University, Louisiana State University, University of Iowa, and University of Arkansas, among others."

Emily Bogaev, a senior education major, doesn't own a hoverboard but holds a strong opinion about the ban.

"I think the ban is a little excessive, but I agree that hoverboards have no place in an academic classroom," Bogaev said.

Bogaev explained why she thinks the self-balancing scooters are unsafe, she has also heard about hoverboards catching on fire.

"I understand why the administration wouldn't want something like that in academic or dorm buildings," Bogaev said.

In its email, the Office of the Provost explained that there isn't enough knowledge on the safety of the hoverboards. Hoverboards also haven't been in existence long enough for companies to create them to be used safely and without inflicting injury on the user. Moving forward, JMU will keep an eye on future safety recommendations for hoverboards.

"While many brands claim to be safer than the others, it is unclear at this time whether those claims are true," the email reads. "JMU Public Safety will continue to monitor and follow the guidance of the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the State Fire Marshal's Office on this issue."

CONTACT Grace Thompson at thompsgc@dukes.jmu.edu.




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BRIANA ELLISON | off topic

Obama doesn't want your guns

The actual intentions of the president's executive order are being blatantly ignored



As he begins his final year as President of the United States, Barack Obama has dedicated himself to addressing the issues of immigration and gun control. On Jan. 4, Obama rolled out his executive order regarding gun control, which immediately garnered praise, criticism and ignorance.

Obama's move toward increasing gun control was a long time coming, the pinnacle of the fight he's endured with the American public and Congress. The incidents and mass shootings involving guns have only increased in the past few years, and it's beyond time something was done about it.

The EO dictates that a numerous amount of steps are being made to increase background checks. Accordingly, it's been clarified that background checks are required for people buying guns in all forums (stores, gun shows, Internet). More examiners are being hired, and Attorney General Loretta Lynch is emphasizing that states must gain people's complete criminal history in the checks.

An investigation center has been established by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives on the Internet so they can better track "online illegal firearms trafficking." Finally,

the EO is also taking steps to increase mental health treatment, and making this information known to the new background check system.

Though this is an abridged overview, it's obvious that Obama is taking the proper steps on this hot-button issue. Yet his action was immediately met with criticism. Many of the Republican candidates immediately voiced their opinions, saying that Obama was enacting action to take away citizens' guns. On the opposite side of the spectrum, there have been liberal proponents (mostly citizens), who have criticized Obama for not doing enough. Essentially they want for Obama to restrict all guns in the U.S.

Neither of these opinions are practical, and seem to completely ignore the steps Obama has taken to make our country safer. Both extremes ignore the facts that guns are deeply ingrained in our society. Unfortunately, eliminating all guns (or making gun ownership illegal) won't end the issue. Although it's unfortunate that guns play such a large role in our society, we can't allow ourselves to be vulnerable in a world where other civilizations have access to firearms.

People will always have access to guns outside of the U.S. The Second Amendment exists, and it shouldn't go anywhere.

Tackling the other side, nowhere in his EO does Obama say

he's taking our guns. There's no desire — and no logical reason, as previously stated — to eliminate all guns. The "gun-snatching-President" fear-mongering is so blatantly false that I almost wonder if its proponents took the time and effort to read Obama's EO. Yes, gun ownership should be restricted so we can keep them out of the wrong hands. Yes, ordinary citizens shouldn't be able to own assault weapons and military-grade firearms. But no, our Second Amendment shouldn't be rendered useless by prohibiting gun ownership.

Issuing an EO regarding gun control was a necessary, bold move by Obama. However, his other reason for issuing the executive order was to finally push Congress to put its differences aside and actually attempt to work together.

Obama, like most of the American public, has become frustrated by Congress' knack for steadfast behavior rather than bipartisanship. Obama, like the American public, has become tired of all the shootings that seem to happen all too often. He wants to push Congress to serve its constituents. And judging by the way Congress has reacted since it was issued, Obama may have succeeded in doing just that.

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



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 "you-could've-asked-nicely" dart to the parent at the bookstore who aggressively made me back my car out.

From a senior who hopes your kids aren't as rude as you.

A "you-da-real-MVP" pat to JL Towing for giving me a break when my car got towed from my own apartment complex.

From an irresponsible Campus View resident.

A "long-overdue" pat to JMU for switching to Pepsi products because I really needed that yellow Gatorade this morning.

From a thirsty and thankful COB student.

A "keep-being-amazing" pat to JMU Dining Services workers for always having hot food and a warm smile.

From a student who knows why our dining is ranked so high.

A "thank-you-coffee" pat to the Starbucks truck for being such a sight for sore eyes at 8 a.m.

From a sophomore who wants to spend an hour alone with your espresso machine.

A "please-go-away" dart to the Antarctic temperatures torturing Harrisonburg.

From a sophomore who can't get warm.

A "calm-down" dart to my next door neighbors for playing loud music late at night for the past week.

From a crotchety senior who wishes you would do less.

A "ballin'-and-I-can't-get-up" pat to UREC for having six new basketball courts.

From a junior aiming for intramural MVP.

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The Conversation Partner Program is an exciting opportunity for mutual cultural exchange between the international student and domestic student. Partners will meet one on one for at least one hour per week. Monthly activities will be hosted for the conversation partners. Applications are currently being accepted. Come to the kickoff event to learn more about the program.

Information Session: Wednesday, January 20th 7PM-8PM
Festival Allegheny Room



Editorial Policies

The Breeze
1598 S. Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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.

GRACE BLACKBURN | caffeinated concepts

Cosby support is unwarranted

Fame doesn't excuse criminal behavior



On Dec. 30, Bill Cosby was charged with felony aggravated indecent assault in Pennsylvania. This is the first criminal charge brought against him for allegations of sexual assault and rape dating back to the 1960s, though Cosby has quietly settled a number of intermittent civil cases with various women. His arraignment has been a long time coming, and the public has been debating for months about Cosby's innocence or lack thereof.

Though he hasn't yet been convicted, Cosby is a serial rapist. That's not my opinion; it's a fact. I'm all for the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, but Cosby has already admitted guilt for his innumerable assaults. In his 2005-06 deposition, Cosby confirmed that he used Quaaludes, a sedative prescription drug, as a mechanism to facilitate sexual relations with women. An intoxicated person can't consent to sex; by definition, what Cosby did was rape.

And yet, there's still a vocal group defending Cosby's innocence. Actor Ben Vereen, for example, declared his support for Cosby when he said that Cosby's accusers were "scandalizing him" and that "there are more important things to think about right now." The idea that Cosby's accusers made false allegations to seek money or fame is common.

Upward of 50 women have come forward with allegations about Cosby. Many of them are entertainers with their own reputations to uphold, such as model and actress Beverly Johnson and model Janice Dickinson. The idea that this many women would bring false allegations simply for notoriety is absurd.

The real problem here is that, as a society, we've been trained not to believe women. We don't want to have to address the reality that rape is endemic, so we dismiss those who come forward. One man's word, backed by his fame, is seen as more worthy than 50 women's combined word.

People may not want to face the thought that a beloved public figure like Cosby is capable of such heinous crimes. It's certainly jarring and unpleasant, but Cosby's accusers didn't create this

problem. We can certainly be angry that Cosby has been thrown off his pedestal, but the only person toward whom that anger is warranted is Cosby himself.

Cosby's case isn't an isolated incident. In a country where one in five women report being raped in their lifetime, according to a 2012 fact sheet from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but only 2 percent of rapists will serve jail time, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, we have to open our eyes. Yes, false rape reports happen, but not at a rate any higher than false reports of other crimes. We have to stop assuming that women are lying about sexual assault just because we don't want to deal with the reality it illuminates.

Cosby's case is more publicized than most rape trials, but it follows a familiar script. Women are doubted, ridiculed and made to question their own lived experiences. Alleged rapists are assumed to be innocent unless proven guilty, but the women making the accusations are assumed to be liars unless proved otherwise.

An essential dichotomy exists between Cosby's denial that he committed rape and his willingness to admit to drugging women for sexual purposes. We as a society are so unwilling to believe women's allegations that a man can detail his methodology for raping women on public record and there's still doubt about these women's credibility.

We want to believe that rape is something that happens when a stranger jumps out of a dark alley. We want to believe it's something that can be prevented by staying out of the wrong circumstances. We want to believe that it's something that could never happen to ourselves or our loved ones, so we reassure ourselves by ignoring damning evidence.

No one wants to believe the TV dad who America loved is capable of repeated sexual assault, but that isn't a good enough reason to automatically discredit his accusers. This case sets an important precedent about how we as a society address rape. If we doubt Cosby's accusers, we're contributing to the cycle of shaming women into silence.

Grace Blackburn is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Grace at blackbge@dukes.jmu.edu.

The real problem here is that, as a society, we've been trained not to believe women.

MIKE DOLZER | MikeTV

NETFLIX

recommendation of the week

TV: "Grace and Frankie" (2015)

1 Season (all on Netflix)

Four elderly people, two men and two women, are seated at a table in an elegant restaurant. The women are expecting that their husbands of 40 years will announce their retirement from the law firm where they work as divorce attorneys. Instead, they reveal that for the last two decades they've been having a steamy affair and are leaving their wives to be together.

The women have never gotten along, but now they must lean on each other to deal with both their marriages ending.

This is how the Netflix original series "Grace and Frankie," from "Friends" creator Marta Kauffman, begins its raw and oddly humorous journey of love and loss.

One of the amazing aspects of this series is the caliber of the main cast, which is truly like a league of living legends. Jane Fonda plays the uptight Grace, while Lily Tomlin is the hippy, peyote-smoking Frankie. The husbands, Robert and Sol, are

played by Martin Sheen (Charlie Sheen's father and actor on "The West Wing") and Sam Waterson (from "Law & Order"), respectively. Seeing these award-winning actors all in the same series is a true treat. More importantly, they all bring great emotional depth to their characters.

The emotion in this show is what makes it stand out. Yes, the premise is fairly unique, but the show could've easily become a mess of cheap stereotypes of the gay and elderly communities. Instead of caricatures, the characters are relatable people. Based off these well-developed characters, the show manages to be real while still maintaining a level of humor.

Fonda and Tomlinson's polar opposite pairing is the biggest gem the series has to offer. They foil each other perfectly as characters and as actresses, pushing each other to leave their sadness and cautions behind as they get their grooves back. Robert and Sol's relationship is also a sweet look at how a newly out couple deals with society's judgements and their own guilt about cheating on their spouses.

Overall, "Grace and Frankie" is a great show that takes on the topics of divorce and homosexuality in a fresh way while utilizing some of the greatest players in the acting industry. Although the show has some truly sad moments, it balances them with humor to craft a realistic take on an unconventional set of circumstances. The series is the perfect blend of classic and modern comedy.

OLIVIA MEYER | guest columnist

Divest JMU is taking a step in the right direction

After over a year of demonstrations, petitioning, meetings and campaigning, Divest JMU has achieved landmark progress in its efforts to publicize and advocate for fossil fuel divestment. Students have been battling to end our school's complicity with irreparable destruction caused by the fossil fuel industry.

As a result of our efforts, we're cautiously optimistic in reporting that leadership of the JMU Foundation, including Chief Executive Order Thomas Schaeffer, who's in charge of investing JMU's endowment, was forwarded our proposal by the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World and is now following our lead in pursuing this goal. Divest JMU will be presenting its proposal on Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 9 a.m.

The irony of proposing divestment through the Environmental Stewardship Action Plan, a collaborative effort to implement environmental projects on campus and in the community, is that many people who hear the words "natural world," "sustainability" and "stewardship" associate these terms with greenwashing or misguided efforts to protect the wilderness without regard for human life.

Meanwhile, the implications of divestment are clear, given that the divestment movement aims to protect people whose lives are being threatened now. Our work isn't about saving trees. We want to stand up for the voiceless by taking the power out of the hands of the fossil fuel industry and placing it in the hands of those whose homes, families and futures are at stake.

After COP21, the 2015 United Nations Climate Conference, we know that the world's attention is being focused on climate change, with unprecedented promises from our world leaders to reduce carbon emissions. Leaders from around the world acknowledge that communities are being displaced by fossil fuel extraction, homes are disappearing from rising sea levels, food and water shortages are threatening the ability to feed families, natural disasters are on the rise and, most critically, that climate change can no longer be discussed as a polarized, dehumanized and distant threat.

However, just like the thousands led by frontline communities who took to the streets in Paris, we recognize that without enforcement, COP21 isn't enough.

Changing the way in which JMU students, faculty and administration interact with social justice through climate change isn't the responsibility of those who were at the Paris meeting; it's up to us. Integrity, the value of education and the immorality of passively navigating life for our own benefit have been emphasized at JMU, where we've been provided with the tools and means necessary to actually make a difference. Change begins with each one of us, and by joining forces here at JMU, we believe we can be successful in bringing about institutional changes while also serving as role models for other, engaged students across the world.

Given the urgency of this situation, we fully expect this new development to result in a speedy decision over the course of the next few months in this semester. We anticipate this to be an easy choice for the Foundation, because by our estimates, divestment could incur little to no cuts in investment returns, and transform our university's reputation as a forward-thinking institution, willing to work with passionate students to stand behind social justice.

For us here at JMU, the next few months will have huge implications for divestment efforts the world over as our own university chooses which side of history to stand with.

Olivia Meyer is a senior geographic science major and a member of Divest JMU. Contact Olivia at meyeroc@dukes.jmu.edu.

== SATIRICAL NEWS COLUMN ==

ELIZABETH GARCIA | guest columnist

Hoverboards banned for being too cool

By MATT MURPHY
The Breeze

I don't know about you, but every morning for almost the past 20 years, I wake up and just feel empty. At the beginning of each day, I felt purposeless and sunken with a severe lack of anything in my life that's made me happy. I felt like this every single day until one fateful afternoon, I discovered redemption in the form of a \$300 self-balancing electric scooter: the hoverboard.

This wasn't the stupid kind of hoverboard that actually floats like the ones in "Back To The Future," either. This one had wheels. You can be sure that I immediately purchased one online and patiently awaited its delivery, knowing that my life would never be the same.

Cruising around campus on this thing filled me with such joy. As I traipsed up and down various hills at a roaring 6.5 mph, I watched as the heads of everyone I passed turned to look. Sometimes I'd even overhear pedestrians praising my hoverboard, saying things like "Why wouldn't he just walk?" or "That guy looks like a tool." These compliments became regular and, to be frank, it's hard not to get a little pompous when you and your hoverboard are constantly wheeling past all the plebeian walking folk.

So when I received notice of JMU deciding to ban all hoverboards from campus buildings I was upset, but I knew why. These boards are just way too cool for the haters higher up in the food chain. They know that having us hoverers cruising around means that everyone will want to come to school here and we just don't have the space or resources for that.

Nobody seems to be asking the obvious question either. If I can't hoverboard, how am I going to get anywhere? Walk? Yeah right, you mean like a cavemen? No way. All we want is the ability to maphazardly blow through the ISAT doors and cruise right into class on a fire-prone Segway knockoff. Is this really too much to ask?

I use my hoverboard while I eat, while I sleep and I'm even standing on one right now as I write this. So trust me when I say that progress will no longer be made on two feet; it'll only come while balancing on hoverboards.

CONTACT Matt Murphy at murph4ma@dukes.jmu.edu.

Navigating a twist in career paths

I've been preparing to be a performer since I was 7 years old. I performed in my first musical in the first grade, starring as Cute Chick #3 in our class production of "Ee-I-Ee-I-Oops." It was a strange little show about Old MacDonald and it made me fall in love with the stage.

From that point forward, there hasn't been a time in my life when I wasn't rehearsing a show, getting ready for, or working through a run. I came to JMU to study musical theatre and college only made me more focused on making it to the Great White Way.

From the moment I arrived on campus, I took every opportunity I could to further my career as a professional performer. I've appeared on every stage in the Forbes Center, spent hours in rehearsal and compiled lengthy lists of theatres to audition post-graduation. I was deadset on making my dream my reality — until, all of a sudden, I wasn't.

In the summer of 2014, I took a job as a substitute teacher with Fairfax County Public Schools. My first day of work was in an eighth grade math classroom where all of my students were reading at or below a first grade level. It was clear that each student had the potential to excel, but without a basic literacy foundation, they struggled. This classroom was five minutes away from the high school I had graduated from just two years earlier — the place where I'd been pushed and supported to pursue my dreams. A few miles had made a world of difference. I wanted to be part of changing this.

At first, I wasn't sure how. But then I started to think. Maybe all of the skills I've been honing in musical theatre — creativity, making bold choices and seeing situations from multiple perspectives — were actually preparing me for something other than singing and dancing. Maybe I had passions that I hadn't been exploring because of how intensively I pursued my major. Maybe I could make an impact, develop my skills and even hold on to some of the things I've loved most

about JMU — a sense of community, school spirit and relationships that matter.

All of these maybes led me to Teach For America and the career I'll begin after graduating: teaching music in rural Arkansas. Everything about it makes me nervous. Will I be good enough for my kids? Will I feel at home in a brand new state? But even with the butterflies, I'm sustained by what I know. Our education system isn't serving all kids in this country. The need for change is almost too urgent to describe.

Nothing about teaching will be easy. That's because the problems in our schools didn't start there — they reflect deep, systemic, overlapping injustices across race, class and geography. A family who can't access health services struggles to keep both parents employed. Those working multiple jobs need after school care but don't live in communities with the resources to provide it. Each inequity makes the next one worse.

When we choose to teach, we choose to disrupt this cycle. We choose to help kids change the way they think about their own abilities and futures and create classrooms full of students who are dreaming big. We cultivate boundless potential — the future musicians, scientists, politicians, writers, artists, doctors, attorneys and leaders who'll shape the world we are all going to share. It won't happen overnight. It will take sustained, thoughtful effort. I want to be a part of it.

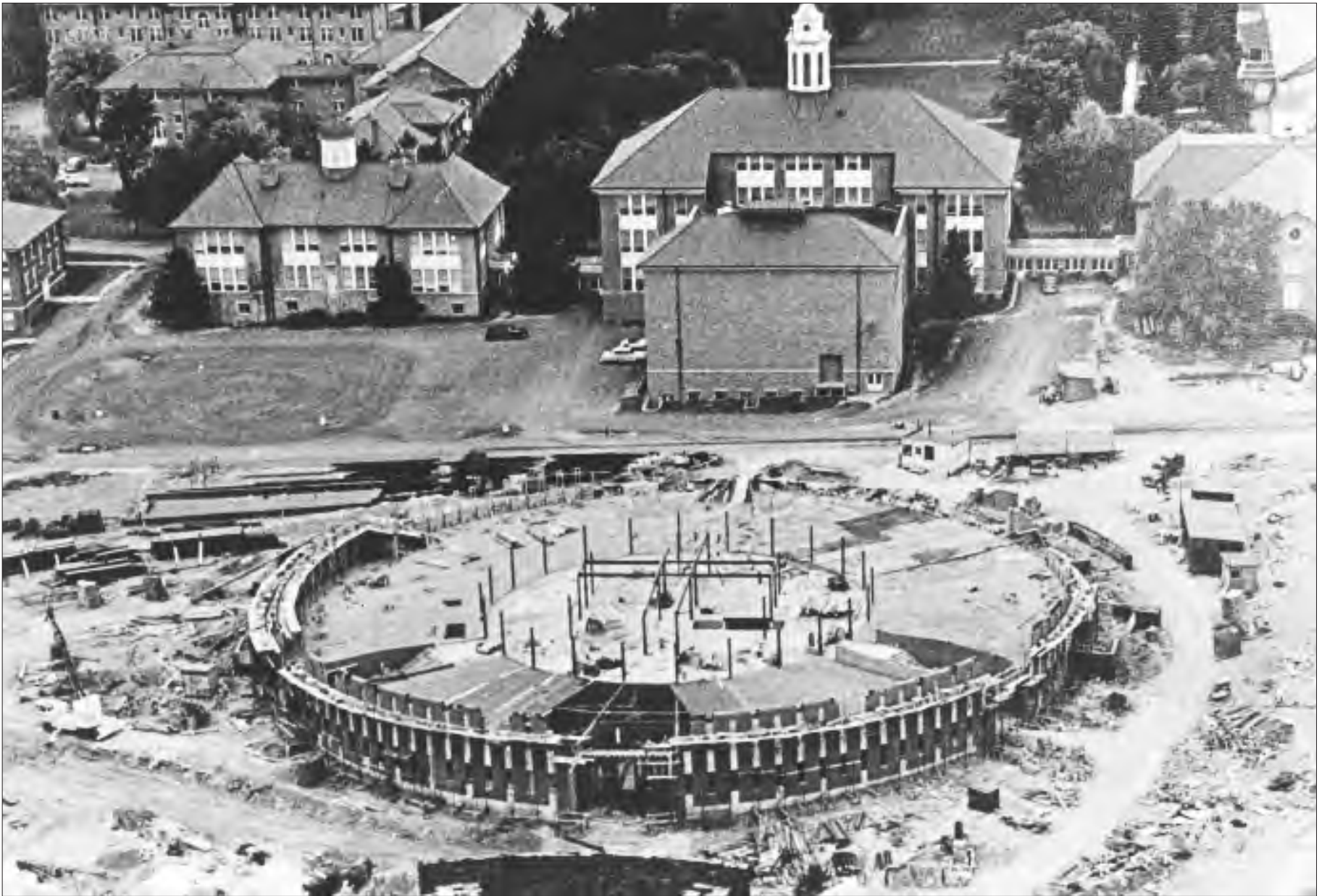
I don't know exactly where this next step will take me. If I love teaching as much as I think I might, I'll keep at it. Or maybe I'll become an administrator, or launch a community program to address some of challenges my students face. Wherever I go, I'll empower my students to break the cycle and strive to become part of a better one.

I can't wait for school to start.

Elizabeth Garcia is a senior musical theatre major. Contact Elizabeth at garciaea@dukes.jmu.edu.

Last call for D-Hall

A look back at the beloved dining hall's origins and its future



COURTESY OF JMU SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Gibbons Hall under construction. The building was first announced in December 1962 and opened on June 15, 1964. After 52 years of serving students, D-Hall will be torn down after this semester.

By **RACHEL MENDELSON**
contributing writer

The doors open and your mouth starts to water as the smell of buffalo sauce fills your nose; buffalo mash is being served up at D-Hall today, and you take the stairs two at a time so you can devour a bowl or four. Buffalo mash, one of D-Hall's most famous dishes, is made of steaming hot mashed potatoes, topped with crispy chicken tenders covered in buffalo sauce and ranch dressing.

The mash is one of many dishes that has drawn JMU students to D-Hall since it opened in June 1964. D-Hall's circular shape and broad range of dining options have made it a staple on JMU's campus, but this revered establishment will soon see its final days. Anyone who parks in the R1 parking lot near the Village dorms knows construction for D-Hub has begun. While students may not be thrilled about its effect on parking, they also realize what this change really means — D-Hub will replace D-Hall once Gibbons Hall, the building in which it resides, is torn down in June. Then, in fall 2018, a brand new dining facility will rise where D-Hall stands today.

Danielle Torisky, a dietetics professor at JMU, published the research paper "History of Dining Services at James Madison University" in 2007. The information that Torisky gathered about the evolution of JMU dining created a foundation for a journey through D-Hall's transformation.

The history of D-Hall begins before Gibbons Hall was even constructed, on Sept. 27, 1909, when the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg opened. Julian Burruss, the school's first president, said the focus of the school was the "preparation of teachers and the training of young women to be good homemakers." Dining took place in current-day Harrison Hall and was very different at the all-girl school of 300 students. Each meal's attendance was mandatory

and the girls had to adhere to a dress code.

During World War I, student dining was affected by rationing. The Notebook, a pre-Breeze publication, published student columns about sugar rations.

"Only aviators and birds will be able to use sugar before long ..." writer G.G. wrote in 1918.

Despite these events, the student body grew and there became a need for more dining space. Under President Samuel Duke in 1924, the school was renamed State Teacher's College at Harrisonburg and then Madison College in 1938. New buildings popped up, including what is now Keezell Hall and a new library. This freed up space in Harrison Hall, moving classrooms and student affairs offices out, and making more room for dining.

"As a student, I ate most of my meals at D-Hall."

Dolly Lawson
1973 alumna and director of vending services

During World War II, enrollment rates fluctuated and there was more rationing, which student reporters again poked fun at in *The Breeze*.

"It's a bitter world from now on ... It surely will be a tasteless world ... Words like, 'You look real sweet,' will be considered the purest of flattery," a columnist wrote in 1942.

Under President Tyler Miller, who began his term in 1949, there were about 1,500 students and the Quad had begun taking shape. Students were already developing their favorite

meals and food items on campus. According to Barbara Reeves, a Breeze reporter, the school baked all of its own breads and rolls, making these items campus favorites. Also on the list of favorites was fried chicken and the long-time favorite, grilled cheese.

In December 1962, the school announced plans to build what's now known as D-Hall. The building opened on June 15, 1964, and was an instant hit. Besides a snack bar, D-Hall was the only dining option on campus. Lines of students waited to enter the building at every meal, ready to inhale their favorite dishes.

"As a student, I ate most of my meals at D-Hall," Dolly Lawson, a 1973 graduate from Madison College and now the director of vending services, said. Her D-Hall favorites were the special meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Since 1981, when she started working at JMU, her list of favorites has grown to include chicken and wild rice soup and French silk pie.

In 1909, JMU had one dining hall — today there are 25 dining locations.

According to Dining Services marketing information provided by Lawson, the new D-Hall will include options like Chick-fil-A, Steak 'n Shake and Qdoba Mexican Grill on the first floor. An all-you-can-eat D-Hall with 1,000 seats will be on the second floor. The third floor will have space for banquets, similar to the upper floor of E-Hall.

If you can't eat enough peanut butter pie, scarf down enough buffalo mash or catch your last Cheesy Thursday before D-Hall closes its doors, D-Hub is planning to serve many of these long-standing campus favorites. The reign of D-Hall may be coming to a close, but its traditions and memories look to live on.

CONTACT Rachel Mendelson at mendelre@dukes.jmu.edu.



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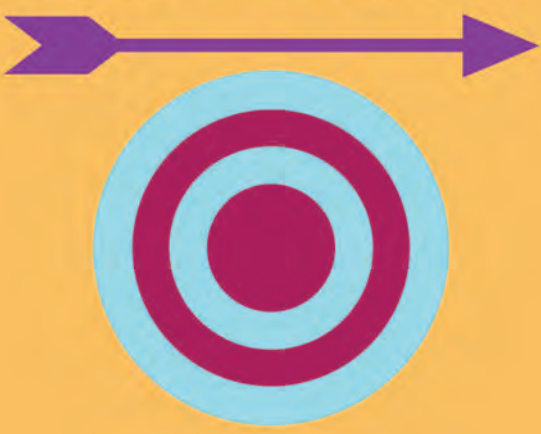
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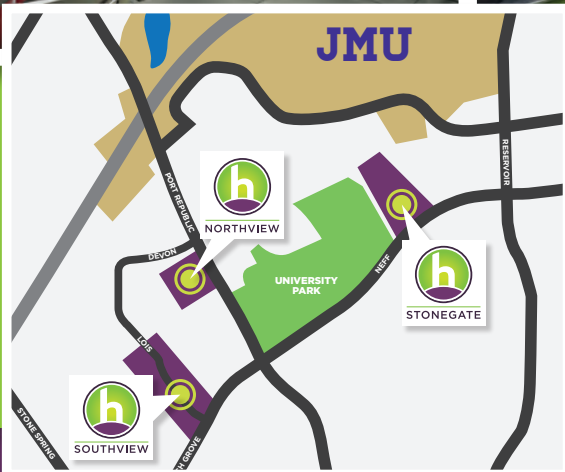
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Just part of the job

Resident advisers discuss the ins and outs of dormitory halls from an administrative perspective



PHOTOS BY LOREN PROBISH / THE BREEZE

Sophomores MacKenzie Frakes, top, and Katie Bagley became resident advisers after they were inspired by older peers – Frakes by her older brother, Bagley by her freshman year resident adviser.

By NATALIE LAVERY
contributing writer

The frantic knocking on the door and the screams of two residents calling for help scared Resident Adviser Katie Bagley as she jumped up to address a terrifying situation. She ran out of the room, and they led her to the bathroom only to find an unconscious resident lying lifeless on the tile floor.

Bagley and her fellow RAs immediately called for help and an ambulance came and took the freshman girl, who had alcohol poisoning, away to receive further medical attention.

Being an RA is no easy job, a successful RA must have extreme commitment to their job. There can be a common thread between those who want to teach and take care of others and those who are successful resident advisers. Bagley and MacKenzie Frakes, both sophomores, were drawn to this job for different reasons, but both greatly enjoy their positions.

Frakes, originally from Alexandria, Virginia, was shown the position through her brother, who was an RA at Christopher Newport University.

"I definitely made the decision to become an RA [in 2014] because I didn't have a good freshman year — I was really homesick a lot of the time," Frakes said. "I wanted to make my first-year residents more comfortable and have an overall better time."

Frakes loves her job but finds that it definitely entails challenges. She learned very quickly how to combat the stereotype of a mean RA who gets students in trouble and ruins all the fun.

"I found if you approach it the right way in the beginning of the year, relationships can be formed," Frakes said.

She further explained that she loves spending time with her residents, and they genuinely enjoy her company too.

"She is very approachable, I don't feel like she is an RA. I feel like she is a friend," Kalon Gouridine, a freshman international business major, said. "She always has our best interest in mind and is just overall a great person."

Frakes said that as an interdisciplinary liberal studies and Spanish double major, she's positive that this job will bring her success in her future career as an elementary school teacher.

"Being an RA gives you great leadership and people skills, the most important ones at the end of the day," Frakes said.

Frakes plans to continue working for the Office of Residence Life throughout the remainder of her college

career. Frakes said she has ambitions of being an undergraduate hall director her senior year, yet is skeptical of switching positions because she highly values the relationships she has formed with students through the first-hand interactions.

"I love spending time with my residents; they really make my day, every single day," Frakes said.

Bagley, an interdisciplinary liberal studies major, on the other hand, found herself in the RA position because she came to JMU not knowing a single person. Bagley, like Frakes, also had a difficult time adjusting her freshman year.

"My RA was able to bridge that gap and really helped me not feel so lonely, making me want to follow in her footsteps," Bagley said.

Bagley enjoys her job; however, there was one time when she questioned her decision — when she was met with the challenge of assisting the unconscious resident.

"Handling an unconscious resident, who was really close to not making it, was pretty scary," Bagley said.

Despite the fact that this situation scared Bagley, she recovered.

"As an RA, I don't go out of my way to look for incidents, they really just stumble upon me," she said. "I really believe I was meant to be there at the specific time."

Regardless of the hard times, Bagley made it clear that she couldn't be happier with her decision to become an RA. She has met her lifelong friends through this position.

"My freshman year I never found my niche, I didn't know where I belonged here ... through being a part of ORL I feel that I have found exactly where I am supposed to be," Bagley said.

Bagley said that community is essential to growth both as an individual and a college student.

Both Bagley and Frakes believe that their jobs as RAs aren't solely about facilitating policy and enforcing the rules, but think their main job is to make the freshmen feel at home. They greatly encourage everyone to apply for the position.

"As an RA you are supposed to take a group of 26 residents who have never met before and create a community, more like a family," Bagley said. "These relationships formed aren't just something you forget; you will carry them with you throughout your entire life."

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MAYOR | JMU professor remembers Jones as a natural-born 'leader'

from front

the rudest in reggae and all that other stuff to make your 'beep' move," Jones said.

When he wasn't playing the hottest in hip-hop, Jones kept busy by serving as a senator in the Student Government Association, singing with the Contemporary Gospel Singers and being vice president of the Black Student Alliance. As vice president, he secured a larger budget for the organization using the knowledge he gained as an SGA senator.

His involvement with BSA is also where he led the march to celebrate MLK's birthday. To ensure his safety, JMU police drove him to and from the Quad. For Jones, the magnitude of that day is matched by few other moments in his life.

One of those other times was the day he became mayor.

"Having my mother and other family members and friends being there, in addition to my classmates and friends from James Madison, the day I was sworn in as mayor was extremely memorable," Jones said.

Family is something that Jones speaks about frequently. His children, Solomon, Haile and Haiden are 14, 11 and 7, respectively. Jones and his wife, Terra, also just welcomed a new addition to their family. Seth Christopher Jones was born this past October.

"He's the most memorable thing that's happened this year," Jones said.

Aside from his new baby, Jones has noticed some other changes in his life. Mainly, how people treat him.

"As a young African-American male from the South, I was not allowed access to a lot of the conversations that are had to develop and shape government," Jones said. "Being the mayor, everyone wants to talk to me, everyone wants to know what I think, or shape how I think. Just over the short period of time, I feel like I went from being ... overlooked to being included."

Now that Jones has the access, he's fully entrenching himself in the Harrisonburg community.

Some examples of his involvement include giving the 2015 graduation commencement

speech for Spotswood High School, serving as the president of the Harrisonburg-Rockingham chapter of the NAACP and working with the Beta Delta Delta chapter of Omega Psi Phi at JMU.

The next chapter of community involvement for Jones is being on the advisory board of the Furious Flower Poetry Center, an organization that was started by his former professor, Joanne Gabbin.

Gabbin taught Jones in her Survey of African-American Literature class in 1999. Even then, she knew he was special.

"I knew that he was going to be a leader," Gabbin said. "Of course I could not fathom that he would come back to Harrisonburg and be mayor of this town, but I knew he was going to be a leader. He had such a sense of knowing who he was and not apologizing for anything about himself."

Gabbin also remembers something else about Jones that made him stand out.

"I used to tease him because he would come into my class five, 10 minutes late," Gabbin said. "I told him he was going to have to watch that."

Despite his tardiness, Gabbin's fondness of Jones never wilted, and she was excited to have him join Furious Flower.

"He said to me when I was speaking at the annual Freedom Fund Banquet that he still had his book, so I said, 'OK, this man loves literature,'" Gabbin said.

After a September meeting where the board members unanimously voted to invite Jones to join, he is ready to take on his position with the poetry center.

"It's just awesome to be in this leadership capacity, working with and helping to give advice to a mentor and former teacher," Jones said.

From organizing the MLK march to serving as mayor, guiding others is a constant in Jones' life.

"I believe in sacrificing for community and for people," Jones said. "It's what gives me energy, it's what keeps me going."

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JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

After his first campaign for public office, Chris Jones won Harrisonburg's mayoral election in October 2014.

BASEBALL

A NEW ERA



COURTESY OF JMU ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

Marlin Ikenberry is entering his first season as JMU's head baseball coach. He was previously head coach at the Virginia Military Institute, where he was the program's winningest coach.

First-year head baseball coach Marlin Ikenberry has past ties to JMU

By **SAMMY CRISCITELLO**
The Breeze

JMU baseball fans will catch the start of a new era for the program in a little over a month. Marlin Ikenberry will take the reins as head coach this season, replacing Joe "Spanky" McFarland, who retired last spring after coaching 18 seasons at JMU.

JMU has always been a special place for the new skipper, as he was recruited to play at JMU while he was in high school, and Ikenberry Hall — a dorm in The Village — is actually named after his great uncle. Despite never playing or coaching at JMU before, Ikenberry believes he is already very familiar with the program.

The Richmond, Virginia native has high expectations moving forward.

"This is a program I could see become not just one of the best in the state, but one of the best in the country," Ikenberry said.

Considering Ikenberry's track record as a college baseball coach in Virginia, familiarity with the JMU program and unprecedented love for the game, this vision could become a reality. Whether it be as a player or coach, Ikenberry has been around the game of baseball his entire life.

"I've always had a passion for baseball — I've made every decision around it," Ikenberry said. "When I grew up, all of my summers were filled with baseball."

This childhood passion followed Ikenberry long past his days of playing in the sandlot. After playing at Douglas S. Freeman High School in Richmond — a strong baseball program during his time there — Ikenberry began his collegiate baseball career as a four-year starting catcher for the Virginia Military Institute.

"I got to call all the pitches back then, and once came one pitch away from catching a perfect game," Ikenberry said.

Some other highlights for the VMI Keydets backstop include catching Ryan Glynn, who would go on to pitch in MLB for the Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays and Oakland Athletics. Ikenberry was a part of VMI's 1993 team that advanced to the Southern Conference Championship game and ranked third nationally in defense.

After graduating from VMI, Ikenberry began his college baseball coaching career at the College of William & Mary in the late '90s, where he worked as an assistant to head coach Jim Farr. After helping recruit and develop many of the Tribe's players — many

of whom would go on to play for the Tribe's Colonial Athletic Association championship team in 2001 — Ikenberry began coaching at VMI in 2000, and became the head coach of the baseball program in 2003.

Ikenberry credits he and his coaching staff's focus on player development as a key component to how the program became a winning one.

"We were with our players as much as the NCAA allowed us to be," Ikenberry said. "We made sure they had great grades so that they could go off and play summer ball and get another 100 at-bats if they were a position player, or throw another 50 innings if they were a pitcher."

During his tenure as the VMI skipper from 2004 to 2014, Ikenberry coached the Keydets to their first winning record since 1965 in 2006. He went on to rack up 282 wins, the most by any coach in program history, and also posted the first three 30-win seasons in program history.

After finishing his time at VMI, Ikenberry served as the Vice President for Business Development at ARMS Software, a company that develops recruiting software for collegiate athletic departments across the country. While holding this position, he followed the

JMU baseball team closely once he knew he was the likely candidate to become the next head coach.

"When the opportunity came knocking for this situation I just felt like this was something I had to pursue, and here I sit," Ikenberry said. "I'm very lucky."

"A lot of kids that I've recruited have played here, so I've stayed close to the program," Ikenberry said. "If you look at the championships we've won, and the types of players that have gone on to play in the major leagues, I always knew this was a place I could see myself going and help build into a powerhouse."

To help the team reach its potential, Ikenberry has hired an entirely new coaching staff. He and his staff are currently working with each player individually to help define the role the player needs to succeed in for the team to reach its ultimate goal.

"We define our goals as a team and they're pretty simple," Ikenberry said. "We want to have a winning record, we want to qualify for the CAA tournament and we want to win the CAA tournament."

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JMU pushes forward in coaching search

Two-year JMU head football coach Everett Withers left for Texas State University over winter break

It's now been over one week since JMU head football coach Everett Withers left JMU for Texas State University. As JMU continues its search for a new coach, Withers' staff at Texas State is taking shape.

According to a report by footballscoop.com and the Daily News-Record, Withers may bring multiple members of his JMU staff with him, including strength and conditioning director Aaron Burkart, cornerback's coach Jules Montinar, director of player personnel John Streicher, wide receivers coach Parker Fleming and linebackers coach Jamal Powell along with him.

"You want your coaches to be able to move on," JMU Director of Athletics Jeff Bourne said in a press conference last Thursday. "It's tough, though, in this scenario where he was here two years. I feel for our student athletes, it's tough having turnover and not having continuity maybe at your coaching position, which is challenging. But, at the same time, I think this is Everett's path, we're happy for him, it's a good move."

Last Thursday's press conference was Bourne's only media availability until a new coach is hired.

John Bowers, who was JMU's assistant coach and recruiting coordinator the past two seasons, was released in December. However, he was rehired last week to fill the position of director of player personnel.

JMU is now in the middle of a search for a new head coach with the help of CarrSports Consulting LLC. CarrSports also assisted JMU in the hiring of Withers in 2013.

"Our goal is to hire somebody that does right by our student athletes, student athlete well-being, relates well to our constituency, understands the JMU culture and somebody that can go out there and

be successful on that field competitively," Bourne said.

Bourne said in his press conference that JMU reached out to CarrSports in the fall after ESPN's "College GameDay" came to campus in preparation for a possible coaching change.

It's CarrSports' policy to not comment on its ongoing search projects.

In mid-December, Withers interviewed for the head coach position at East Carolina University. ECU hired former Duke University offensive coordinator Scottie Montgomery.

Texas State competes in the Sun Belt conference in the Football Bowl Subdivision and finished the 2015 season with a 3-9 record. Withers' salary will increase to \$650,000 according to the San Antonio Express-News, compared to the \$325,000 he earned at JMU.

The Dukes played to a 18-7 record in Withers' two seasons as head coach, consisting of a 14-game regular season win streak. The win streak ended on Oct. 24, 2015 — the day JMU hosted "College GameDay" — with a 59-49 loss to the University of Richmond.

JMU made the Football Championship Subdivision Playoffs the past two seasons, including a No. 5 seed and a first round bye this past year. In 2014, the Dukes lost to Liberty University 26-21 in the first round. This past season, JMU lost to Colgate University 44-38 in its first game of the playoffs.

Withers said in his introductory press conference at Texas State that JMU had 17 commits for this year's recruiting class. This year's National Signing Day is Feb. 3, so JMU may look to fill the position before then.

—staff report



ERIN WILLIAMS / THE BREEZE

Everett Withers was hired as JMU's head football coach in December 2013.

There's more online:

www.breezejmu.org/sports

Double Take: the baseball Hall of Fame voting process

NFL Playoffs analysis and predictions

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (9-5)

Getting the ball rolling

JMU women's basketball looks to find a rhythm as it enters conference play

By **ROBERT WILLIAMS**
The Breeze

As many students and faculty left Harrisonburg for the holidays, the JMU women's basketball team prepared for the two-day Florida Sunshine Classic in Winter Park, Florida, as well as the start of Colonial Athletic Association conference play.

In the Sunshine State, the outcome wasn't as bright, but JMU still pulled value from its games there. The Dukes lost 69-62 to Big-12 conference powerhouses West Virginia University (15-4) and 77-63 to then No. 4-ranked Baylor University (17-1).

"I learned a lot about my team," head coach Kenny Brooks said. "You're playing two teams of that caliber and I thought we fought them from the start to the end and it gave our team a lot of confidence."

JMU returned to the hardwood the following week to defeat Davidson College (7-10) 87-45. But then the Dukes fell in a 65-59 overtime loss to conference foe William & Mary (11-3).

It wasn't the ideal start to conference play, but there were some still positive takeaways from it.

"I really like where we are," Brooks said. "We're obviously 2-1, and you'd love to be 3-0, but I think from the one loss that we've had to open CAA play, I think we've learned a lot from it."

The Dukes bounced back and collected two consecutive wins against the College of Charleston (5-9, 0-3 CAA) and, most recently, Elon University (9-5, 2-1 CAA) this past Sunday.

"Our attitude has changed," Brooks said. "I thought we entered CAA play as the 'hunted,' and now we're approaching it as the 'hunter.' I like where the kids' mentality is."

Multiple tactics seem to be working for JMU. According to senior guard Angela Mickens, who's leading the team in assists with 7.5 per game, running the floor and stopping scorers isn't a problem, but the team's ability to maintain consistency must be improved.

"I love the fast pace. We can run [and] go," Mickens said. "Our defense is still one of the top defenses that we've had, but being consistent throughout the whole entire season is something we need to work on."

The Dukes still remain undefeated at home in the Convocation Center with a record of 6-0, but Brooks focuses on the idea of improving each day. He feels as if the players are still adjusting to the Friday/Sunday game schedule.

"I think we're going to continue to get better," Brooks said. "It seems like we hurry up [just] to wait. Friday, you have a game; Saturday, you have a walk-through; Sunday, you have a game; then Monday [through] Thursday, you have nothing."

Even with only four active seniors remaining on the team, it seems to have become apparent that their younger counterparts rely on them in certain aspects.

That's nothing new for Mickens. She said her "role hasn't really changed."

"It's all about being a mother [and] nurturing hen to my younger players," Mickens said. "We started with five [players], and we have four now. It's all about getting them to a place where they can all fit in to what we're doing and all in with Coach Brooks' system."

Redshirt senior guard Jazmon Gwathmey, who currently leads the team in scoring with 19.1 points per game, said that her role has switched since the previous year. She's now part of what the opposition is aiming for.

"It's a little different," Gwathmey said. "I'm not used to being targeted [and] being double-teamed [but] it's okay so far. This year I've been having to be more verbal to the younger players."

According to Brooks, "valuable lessons" must be learned through each loss.

"We're not looking at it as: 'We want to win every basketball game,' but I think we have to apply what we've learned from the previous games," Brooks said.

JMU faces Drexel University (6-8, 2-1 CAA) Friday in the Convocation Center.

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CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

JMU women's basketball will host Drexel University at 7 p.m. on Friday.

MBB | The Dukes are 12-5 overall and 2-2 as they enter conference play

from front

subconscious. I feel bad for him, he's just not there; he's not the same player yet. We feel like he's going to bounce back but he's going through a tough stretch and it is certainly impacting our team."

Another notable JMU starter that has hit a cold streak is junior guard Shakir Brown. Before the conference schedule, the junior college transfer was averaging around 14 points per game and now, over the last four games, he's averaging just 6.5 points per game.

Brown began the year as a bench player, utilizing the sixth man role and embracing it by scoring over 20 points in his first two games as a Duke. Just four games into the regular season, Brady had Brown in the starting lineup to see if the scoring would translate. The move ultimately paid off as Brown's scoring continued to rise in road games, although the guard struggled profusely at the Convocation Center. Brown was held to under five points in three of JMU's first four conference games before pulling together a 14-point performance in JMU's latest victory over Towson University this past Saturday.

Brady has briefly thought of possibly moving Brown back to the sixth man spot and placing sophomore guard Joey Mclean back into the starting lineup. Brady feels not only Brown's, but also Dalembert's and Kent's, shooting struggles will end.

"I think it's critical that as a staff we stay the course and work on our group getting better," Brady said. "Everyone is going to have some ups and downs."

On a contrary, Curry is averaging just under 19 points per game in conference play so far. "He's been big all year, not just the last few games," senior guard Winston Grays said.

"Even when he's not scoring a lot, he's still doing a lot for the team or encouraging people to do things. He's been big for being a leader for the team."

Grays is averaging 7.3 points per game in conference play so far this season, a bump up from just under five points a game, which he averaged during the non-conference schedule. Not all players can accept a role as a bench player, but according to Brady, Grays has handled it "maturely." With multiple starters struggling with scoring, he adds key points off the bench that the team may not be getting from its starters.

"Me and coach Brady talked a lot and just me being able to see what's going on in the game and be able to impact the game is what we have come to the conclusion as being what my role is," Grays said.

A big surprise offensively this year for JMU scoring wise is the 6-foot-10 Cabarkapa. The Serbian has become quite the crowd pleaser coming off the bench with his sky hook shots and emotional three point celebrations. Cabarkapa has steadily kept his scoring average around the 12 to 13 point mark throughout the non-conference schedule and early conference play.

"I don't know the right answer to that question," Cabarkapa said when asked about how he's been so consistent. "I just work and give the most effort as I can and help the team win as many games as I can."

Defense: B+

JMU is holding opponents to 68 points per game, which may seem like a lot, but

opponents are shooting only 40 percent from the field and just 30 percent from beyond the arc. JMU's real issue defensively revolves around the rebound margin.

"A year ago our single biggest liability was our physicality on the glass and now we are a significantly better defensive rebounding team but we haven't been as consistent offensively," Brady said. "If not for one or two plays we could have two or three more wins, so I don't think there is anything way off target here, I just think we need to keep our eye on the ball."

Coaching: B+

Despite the late-game losses early into the conference schedule, not much blame should be put on the coaching staff. Keeping faith in key guys such as Dalembert, Kent and Brown shows that the staff trusts them to make plays. Each player brings key elements to the game and benching one or even all three could end up being a detrimental mistake.

Apart from the starters, Brady has had some issues with solidifying the perimeter rotation that comes off the bench. Although Grays and Mclean may be the first ones coming off the bench, it doesn't mean that they'll be the ones that Brady sticks with throughout the rotation.

"I don't think the rotation will ever be set," Brady said. "Whoever is playing well is going to be the guy that gets the most minutes."

However, there's one guy that Brady is trying to find a niche for and that is the redshirt junior transfer from Butler University, Devontae Morgan. Morgan is an athletic guard who can explode at the rim, but his perimeter shooting is something that concerns Brady.

"He's not a guy that is a very proficient shooter, but he can help change the tempo of the game," Brady said. "There are going to be games when he gets in and helps us win."

Although there are a handful of guys ahead of Morgan in the rotation, it hasn't seemed to affect his work ethic in the eyes of Brady.

"He has handled his role with great maturity," Brady said. "He is in a situation where I'm playing some other guys certainly in front of him and all he does is continue to go to work in practice and spend the extra time in the gym."

Brady may not find that perfect spot for Morgan, but developing a more consistent rotation will be another key to JMU's success in future CAA contests.

In a conference like the CAA is shaping up to be, with eight of the 10 teams already accumulating 10 or more wins, small mistakes and mishaps can add up quickly whether it is coming from the offensive end or the defensive end.

In JMU's recent outing against Towson, Brady described the game as, "a barometer of where we can go as a team" and thought the team played with "terrific energy and great toughness and we are going to try and play the rest of the games like that."

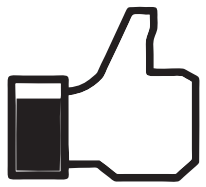
If JMU can tweak its consistency issues, the team could make a serious run at not only another CAA title, but even in the NCAA tournament in March.

The rest of the schedule will by no means be easy for JMU as the team's next opponents come on the road against two of the three tied for first in the CAA: Northeastern Thursday and then Hofstra University on Saturday.

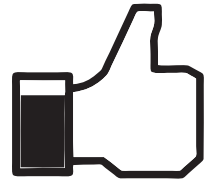
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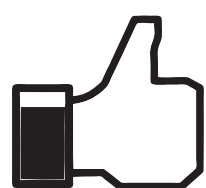
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Journalism Project for JMU student. Subject already has had limited national attention and book is just being released. Interview is approved and being scheduled. Been in touch with venues for article, etc. 540-820-5730.

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