

Brothers in battle

Dukes running backs' growth on the gridiron has led to combined success

#### **By MATT WEYRICH** *The Breeze*

Stopping the Dukes' running game may be tough, but separating their two prolific running backs is a whole different story. Redshirt junior Cardon Johnson and senior Khalid Abdullah have known each other since they were five years old. The two standout athletes shared the field growing up in their hometown of Newport News, Virginia, and now do so again as Dukes on Saturday afternoons.

"My greatest memory is probably just going over to his house," Abdullah said. "My mom worked long hours early on so I would go over to his house and stay with his family and spend ... a lot of time with them. I have all sisters so it was just like having a brother."

Johnson and Abdullah attended different high schools, but with only a 15-minute drive separating the running backs, their friendship extended through their teenage years. Both players earned selections to the First Team All-District squad during their high school careers, leaving each of them poised for a future in college football.

"Knowing you're going against your best friend, Friday nights, your rival school, there's a lot of excitement," Johnson said. "Seeing him do well out there, you know you want to cheer your defense on but you also want to cheer him on. It's just good competition and ... it was great going against each other."



see FOOTBALL, page 10 Senior running back Khalid Abdullah pounds his chest after scoring a touchdown. Abdullah eclipsed 2,000 career rushing yards in the team's most recent game.

Student under investigation for alleged voter fraud

# Spin it to win it

#### Local resident alerts authorities when deceased relative receives registration

#### **By BROOKE BLANEY** The Breeze

A JMU student allegedly committed voter fraud recently using the identities of deceased people while working to register voters through HarrisonburgVOTES.

"He turned in 19 voters to the registrar [of] folks that were deceased," said a source with HarrisonburgVOTES, who wished to remain anonymous to avoid connecting the accused student with any campus organizations.

The suspect worked for this organization for about nine weeks while he allegedly submitted both legitimate and fraudulent voter registration forms. HarrisonburgVOTES isn't involved in this case. While The Breeze has identified this student, it has chosen to withhold any identifying information until a conviction occurs.

"Several weeks ago, an organization engaged in registering voters for the upcoming election submitted numerous voter registration applications. A review by my office staff revealed that a number of these registration applications appeared false," the Harrisonburg Voter Registrar's Office said in a press release on September 12. There have been no other suspects released to the public as of Thursday.

"I want everyone to know that our office is handling this as advised by the city attorney, the commonwealth's attorney, the police investigator and the FBI agent," the Registrar's Office said.

Before the upcoming election, the Voter Registrar's Office reports that they'll cancel the false voter registrations by submitting the list to their Electoral Board. These false reports were originally brought to the commonwealth attorney's attention by a family member of one of the deceased citizens used for the registrations.

"On August 15 I found out and on the 16 [the suspect] confessed to me," said Joe Fitzgerald, a professor and PR Coordinator and director of HarrisonburgVOTES. "I contacted the police immediately to let them know what I knew."

see **FRAUD**, page 3



Although the suspect was a member of HarrisonburgVOTES, organization members say they were unaware of his alleged activities.

#### Alumna helps launch new app in Harrisonburg

#### By RICHIE BOZEK The Breeze

It's dinner time. You and your roommates are sitting around debating where you should eat. The choice can be tough, but that's where Spotluck comes in.

Spotluck is a dining app that promotes local restaurants in a given community. By simply hitting the "spin" button in the app, you can receive up to a 35 percent discount at one restaurant and 10 percent discounts at a number of others to be used that day.

Launched in June 2014 in the Washington, D.C., area, the fastgrowing smartphone app recently added H'Burg to its numerous markets.

"We could've gone a lot of places, yet we wanted to bring our app to a community where there's a need," CEO Cherian Thomas said. "We clearly saw that need at JMU. There's tons of students that don't know where to eat ... and Spotluck helps solve that dining dilemma."

Thomas and co-founder Brad Sayler left behind their corporate jobs for Thomas' basement to work on something they believed in — Spotluck — using their own money.

But adding Harrisonburg as a Spotluck market was in large part due to Lauren DiRuggiero, a JMU alumna ('14) and user community manager at Spotluck. Spotluck Harrisonburg even launched on her birthday, Aug. 26.



COURTESY OF LAUREN DIRUGGIERO The app gives users deals at local eateries.

see **APP**, page 8

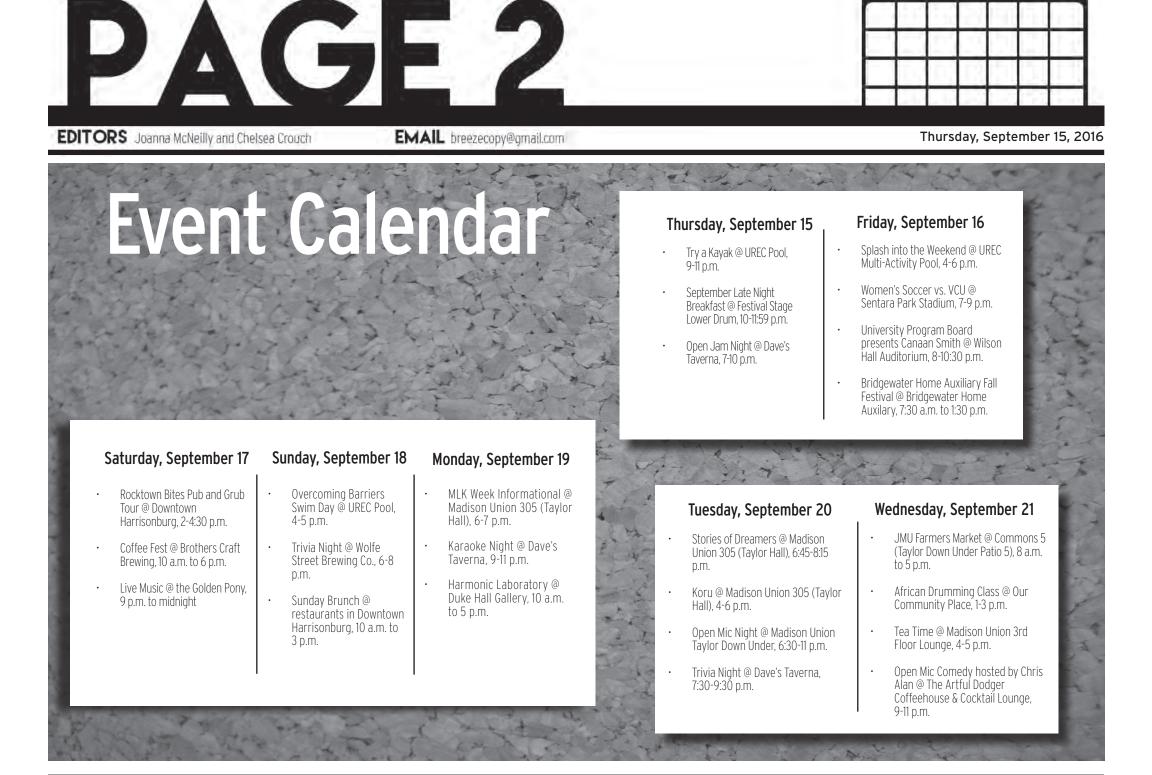


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#### **CARTOON: LET'S GET SQUIRRELY**



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63 Humorist Barry 64 Unparalleled 66 Plugging away 67 Heated contest, in more ways than one 68 Aquafina rival 69 Some skinny jeans 70 Torah cabinets 71 Like a neglected garden

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

> Down 1 Refuse to, with "at" 2 Outlook messages 3 Lacks choices 4 Quetzalcoatl worshipers 5 High-\_\_ image 6 Jasmine 7 Part of an autumn stash 8 Many a beach rental 9 Bitter green in mixed greens 10 Fur-loving de Vil 11 Work that may be imposed with a prison sentence 12 29-state country 13 Feverish bouts 18 "Still. 24 Honda Fit competitor 26 Warning sign in the Rockies 28 High waters 30 Abundance in the cheerleading squad 31 Reverence 32 Observation with a sigh 34 Kwik-E-Mart clerk 35 Kitchen amt.

37 Take for a sucker 38 Little fellow 41 Many an Indian fan 44 Computers that travel well 48 Puget Sound city 50 It's on the record 51 Wartime award 52 Fill with joy 53 Forty-\_\_ 54 Links hazard 56 Banks with a statue at Wrigley Field 57 Course with leaves 60 Jazz lovers 62 Part of a Wall St. address 65 Meadow drops

CHELSEA CROUCH / THE BREEZE

Find the answers online at: breezejmu.org/site/crossword\_answers

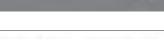
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> "To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression." — JAMES MADISON, 1800





Check out our website



By Jeff Stillman

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#### MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student run lewspaper of dames industri 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 on 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 Robyn Smith, editor.

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Thursday, September 15, 2016

# Grad school grub

Grad 'n' Go food pantry offers meals to students in need

#### **By INGRID BASHEDA** The Breeze

Between studying, writing papers, paying rent, buying food and working a job, graduate students would be grateful if just one of those things were made less complicated for them. Last spring, Alyssa Welch, a JMU alumna ('16) with a master's in psychology, assisted graduates by creating a less stressful life through Grad 'n' Go, a free food pantry offered to graduate students.

"A very common topic of conversation between grad students, whether they're friends or just in class, is student debt," Welch said.

According to the JMU website, the cost of tuition per credit hour for in-state graduate students is \$448 and out-of-state is \$1,179.

The graduate psychology program at JMU has a food pantry for their graduate students, which is what sparked Welch's interest.

"I would mention this idea to people and they would like it but wouldn't do anything about it," Welch said. "I'm very big on seeing a problem and trying to find a solution ... so I was like, 'Wait, why don't we do something about this?"

Grad 'n' Go is located in Wilson Hall room 107, with the help of the Cohen Center, which is a program directed toward the graduate faculty and students about ideas that pertain to outside the classrooms. The food ranges from easy snacks like granola bars, instant oatmeal, chips and fruit, to bigger meals like canned veggies, canned tuna and pasta.

see **PANTRY**, page 4

# Noise ordinance fully implemented

Controversial mandate will now require permits for social gatherings



Although the City of Harrisonburg's controversial noise ordinance amendment went into effect several weeks ago, the full regulations weren't implemented until today. Anyone hosting more than 100 people at a social gathering are now required to obtain a permit from the city at least 15 days in advance.

#### By MAKENA RAFFERTY-LEWIS and ALYSSA MILLER The Breeze

Today, the City of Harrisonburg's controversial noise ordinance will go into full effect, now requiring mass gatherings of 100 people or more to be registered 15 days in advance with the city. Prior to today, only a portion of the ordinance was being enforced to give residents a chance to learn more about the new regulations.



"With the permit process, the intent is designed to make sure that if someone is going to have a large social gathering, that 1) they have the proper registrations, and 2) they have the proper resources to facilitate that gathering," said Lieutenant Rod Pollard, the control division commander at the Harrisonburg Police Department.

According to Sergeant Jason Kidd, one of the key differences since the ordinance has been enacted is that the HPD no longer needs to receive a complaint from a resident for police to show up on the scene of a possible noise violation. Now, if a police officer passes by and can hear noise emitting from a residence from 100 feet away, they can write a citation.

Because of this, one incentive for students to register their gathering is that, if registered, they'll receive a warning in person or over the phone before police attempt to shut the party down. However, Kidd added that if a person doesn't answer the phone when they are called with a warning, they are still considered to have been given that warning.

Along with registering the event, the host will need to make sure there are sufficient restrooms and parking for the number of people in attendance.

STEPHANIE MORALES / THE BREEZE

see NOISE, page 4

### **FRAUD** | Organization fired student, claims no responsibility for their actions

# **Cultural celebration**

#### from front

HarrisonburgVOTES takes no responsibility for the student's actions. Several members of this organization supported the termination of his position.

"We realized they were bad forms and [the student] was immediately fired," the anonymous source said.

The student has no apparent connections in this case. Also, HarrisonburgVOTES is the only organization the student allegedly used to submit the registrations anywhere on campus or otherwise. Their motivation for filling out forms with the names of the deceased, for a period of about nine weeks, is currently unknown.

"I am not involved directly in the investigation but I know it appears there was only one person involved who did it on [their] own for reasons that pass all understanding," Fitzgerald said.

The voter fraud allegedly committed by the student has only recently been reported on. Fitzgerald and the anonymous source reached out to The Breeze in an effort to provide JMU students with prompt and accurate information on this crime's investigation.

**CONTACT** Brooke Blaney at blaneybk@dukes.jmu.edu.

JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

A JMU student allegedly committed voter fraud over a period of about nine weeks and is currently under investigation. Their motivations are currently unknown.

#### JMU prepares for upcoming International Week

"When we study

abroad we learn

things about other

places and yourself,"

Seán McCarthv

Study abroad

program director

#### **By BROOKE BLANEY** The Breeze

International Week is coming back to JMU next week with several diverse activities and presentations around campus. I-Week's goal is to broaden students' perspectives about the world and entice them to study abroad.

"We typically have had pretty good attendance," said Jonathan Kratz, director of international student

& scholar services and co-chair of I-Week. "We try to get students to think a little differently and learn more than they did before."

The Office of International Programs assigns a theme to organize the events and make every year unique. This year's theme, "DocUmenting Our Journeys," is meant to focus on the experiences of international students and students who've studied abroad.

"This specific program is designed to provide an avenue for international students and study abroad alumni to reflect and informally share their experiences from abroad with their peers," Kate Bergey, a master's of education and personnel administration student and graduate assistant for Career and Academic Planning, said in an email.

Each year's goals for I-Week are represented

in the theme; this year's is focusing on student experiences. OIP has a system in place to ensure the themes represent their goals and planned events.

"There is a committee in oIP of about eight of us that brainstorm different ideas to highlight cultural diversity on campus," Kratz said.

Once the committee comes up with a theme, they put out requests for event

> proposals from faculty, staff, students and campus groups. They then add other events that the office does every year like a concert produced by the School of Music, an international bazaar and a study abroad fair.

Along with many other students and organizations involved in this year's I-Week, the Department of Social Work will contribute to the events.

Students like Bergey have also been extensively

involved in planning I-Week. She's part of the event Open Mic: Study Abroad and International Student Experiences, and has mainly assisted in the planning and coordination of the program.

Professors like Seán McCarthy agree that studying abroad and opening up to diverse

see I-WEEK, page 4

### IN BRIEF

#### HARRISONBURG

#### Student hit by car on Port **Republic Road on Tuesday**

A female JMU student was hit by a car while crossing the intersection of Port Republic Road and Devon Lane.

The student was running north on Devon Lane around 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday when she allegedly crossed the street without stopping for traffic, according to a police report provided by Harrisonburg Police Department Patrol Supervisor Sergeant Phillip Read.

At the same time, a Harrisonburg woman was traveling east in the left lane of Port Republic Road in a Subaru. The driver said in the report that the light had just turned green as she drove through the intersection.

According to the police report, the driver accidentally struck the pedestrian with the right front bumper of her vehicle. The pedestrian rolled onto the hood of the Subaru - cracking the windshield of the car — and was thrown about 20 feet from the vehicle by the impact.

The pedestrian was transported to Rockingham Memorial Hospital.

No charges are being filed against the driver or the pedestrian at this time, according to Read.

#### WORLD

#### Study shows death rate doesn't increase with 'active monitoring' of prostate cancer

A new study published in the New England Journal of Medicine on Wednesday shows that men who decide to wait on surgery to treat prostate cancer are at no higher risk of death than those who pursue immediate treatment.

According to an article in The New York Times, "Researchers followed patients for 10 years and found no difference in death rates between men who were picked at random to have surgery or radiation, or to rely on 'active monitoring' of the cancer, with treatment only if it progressed."

The article said active monitoring involved regular doctor's office visits and biopsies, as well as blood tests for prostate specific antigen, which can indicate a progression in the disease. While many of the men chosen for active monitoring eventually opted to have surgery, some decided to wait because of undesirable side effects such as impotence and bowel problems.

Researchers will continue to follow the patients to study how active monitoring continues to impact the death rate of those who don't immediately pursue radiation treatment or surgery.

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THURSDAY

9/22

Study Abroad Fair

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Photo Contest

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Public Debate

7 – 8 p.m.

Reception

Festival Grand Ballroom

Prism Gallery, Festival

Madison Union Ballroom

## **I-WEEK** | JMU studied local engagement through Latino students' experiences

TUESDAY

9/20

#### from page 3

experiences and cultures is beneficial to students. McCarthy, a writing, rhetoric and technical communication professor, strongly agrees that studying abroad deepens and enriches their experiences.

"When we only live in one place we are used to certain ways about looking at the world," said McCarthy, one of three directors in the study abroad program, Ireland: From Water to Steam. "When we study abroad we learn things about other places and yourself."

The program focuses on exploring water as a vital environmental, cultural and aesthetic resource. McCarthy and his students will be taking part in the local communities in water dances and many other hands-on learning experiences. This journey would be especially useful to WRTC majors, as they can get major and gen-ed credits in an exciting way.

This year, Kratz said JMU President Jon Alger wants to look at engagement locally so the office will be documenting Latino students' high school experiences and college dreams.

There will also be a range of different events in attempt to pull in a variety of students. Some of the events focus on lecture, while the bazaar and trivia night are more hands-on. The oIP committee will also host a reception for the winners of their international photo contest and a world cup soccer tournament.

"There will be a public debate against other schools about the utilization of national ID cards, whether it is a critical step in immigration reform," Kratz said.

The office and many others remain hopeful and excited for the outcomes of the upcoming week.

"It is important to understand the diverse ways people live around the world," McCarthy said. "It gives JMU students the opportunity to learn, work and play abroad with their professors and the community they are visiting."

**CONTACT** Brooke Blaney at blaneybk@dukes.jmu.edu.

#### International Week, September 19-24 DocUmenting Our Journeys

#### monday **9/19**

International Bazaar TDU Patio Area 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Around the World: A Journey in Social Justice Highlands Room, Festival 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Concert: Reflecting Our Journeys Forbes Center, Concert Hall 8 – 9:30 p.m.



Developing a Study Abroad Program: New Director Info Session Beyond, 50 W. Water St. 2 – 3 p.m. . .

From Pizza to People: An Examination of Italian Youth and Society Madison Union 405 4 – 6 p.m.

From Bosnia to Ireland: Study Abroad, Stories and Impact Grafton Stovall 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Trivia Night Beyond, 50 W. Water St. 7 – 9 p.m.

> Soccer Tournament Sentara Park 4 – 8 p.m.



Study Abroad and International Student Open Mic TDU (Madison Union) 4 – 5 p.m.

Madison Celebrates Two Decades of Global Humanitarian Assistance Highlands Room, Festival 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Documenting Latina/o High School Experiences and College Dreams Madison Union, 405 7 – 8:30 p.m.



Harrisonburg International Festival Hillandale Park noon – 6 p.m.

KASIA BURNS / THE BREEZE

### **NOISE** | Phi Gamma Delta gets first permit

#### from page 3

"When we don't have those things in a large gathering it does affect public safety and surrounding areas," Pollard said. "What the permit is doing on the front end is making sure that the event coordinator or person having the gathering is doing their due diligence ... to make sure that they have a successful event."

Junior biology major Martin Muller is the philanthropy chair for Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, or FIJI. The fraternity was the first group to apply for and obtain a permit for an event in the city: the third annual "Crawfish for Cancer" charity event.

So far, eight organizations have applied for a permit according to the city manag "Some of the points were a little confusing and we had to call the police department non-emergency number to make sure we filled it out to the best of the requirements," said Muller, who added that HPD was helpful in filling out the forms. Although those in charge are still getting used to the ordinance, leading to some confusion, Muller said it was "just another step" in preparing for the event and the process wasn't difficult. "It was just timeconsuming," Muller said. Once submitted, Crawfish for Cancer was approved in a day, he added. While the new permit has an impact on student and resident gatherings, the ordinance hasn't yet been amended to apply specifically to bars and other venues downtown. Kidd says the city council is still working on these regulations. "There is an exemption for commercial establishments in B-1 and B-2 zoning districts for amplified music. This would cover most of the bars in town," Kidd said in an email. Paul Somers, a local business owner and City Council candidate who lives in Old Town, believes those holding parties in downtown Harrisonburg will have trouble using live music because of the ordinance. "I live in Old Town and I can hear the parties and see people stumbling around, and the party atmosphere is going on in the middle of the day," Somers said. Kidd says that areas in Old Town like Mason Street aren't a good place to have parties with live bands. According to Pollard, on the weekend of September 9, there were four noise violations in the city, although no related arrests were made. He doesn't believe that this number will increase on average once the permit regulation is passed.

# **PANTRY** | Food is donated by graduate faculty, admins, students



#### LAURA VANDEMARK / THE BREEZE

#### from page 3

The executive council of the Graduate Student Association currently runs Grad 'n' Go now that Welch has graduated. The council consists of Heather Daly, a psychological sciences graduate student and the secretary; Catherine Mathers, a psychological sciences graduate student and president; and Daniel Vieth, a communications and advocacy graduate student and vice president.

"I didn't know that the need [for food for graduate students] was that great until I got this position," Daly said. "People came and said, 'When will there be more food at Grad 'n' Go? I've only had one meal today.""

According to U.S. News and World Report in 2014, 25 percent of graduate students owed nearly \$100,000 in student loans.

According to Daly, the first step of the Grad 'n' Go process is to contact the head of each graduate program to see if they're willing to have a donations box to collect food items.

Food donations so far have been made by the graduate faculty, graduate administrators, graduate students who are willing to contribute and people who've learned about Grad 'n' Go through word of mouth. All are welcome and encouraged to contribute.

"I was the first one to speak about the idea, but it was really a group idea of many people trying to get at an issue," Welch said.

Welch had discussed this financial-need issue for graduates at the Board of Visitors' April meeting. Because she'd brought up this issue, JMU now offers need-based scholarships for graduate students, called graduate state grants. "They had no idea how much of an issue this is for grad students," Welch said. "So that was cool because they listened. I've never been more proud of my university ever."

According to the Graduate School, 45 students were awarded \$5,000 this year in state grants.

Welch said she couldn't have done this without the help of Katelyn Quinley, a 2016 JMU graduate student with her master's in writing, rhetoric and technical communication, and the Cohen Center.

"The process wasn't easy," Welch said. "Trying to start something so big was very intimidating."

After the creation of Grad 'n' Go, Welch would meet once a month with the graduate council, which consisted of the program directors from each graduate program.

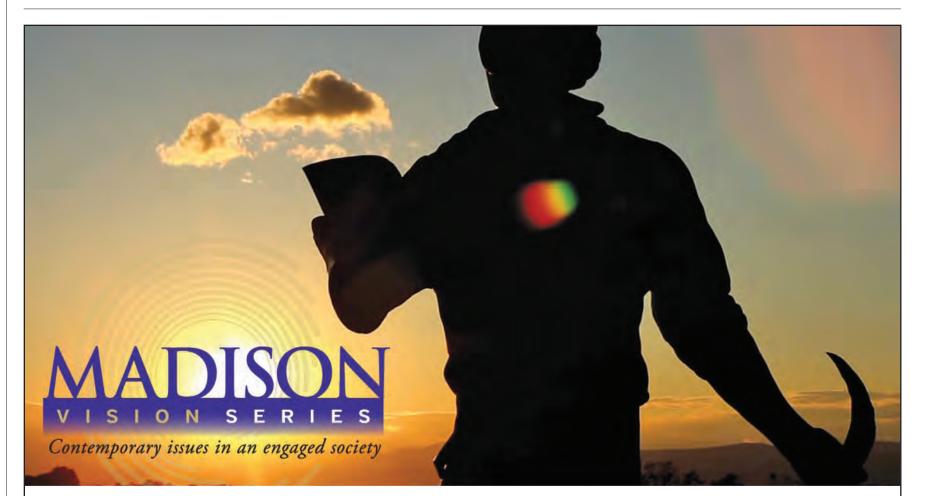
Daly and Mathers are determined to continue Grad 'n' Go at JMU and make it more successful.

Emily Kohl, a writing, rhetoric and technical communication graduate student and graduate assistant at the Cohen Center, has seen some of those efforts pay off.

"We have received a lot of enthusiasm and excitement from graduates about the resources available," Kohl said. "One time at the Grad 'n' Go food pantry, we found an anonymous note left on a napkin saying, 'Thank you — All grad students' with a smiley face."

**CONTACT** Makenna Rafferty-Lewis and Alyssa Miller at breezenews@gmail.com. The Grad 'n' Go food pantry, located in Wilson Hall, offers everything from lighter snacks to full meals for graduate students who have trouble affording groceries.

**CONTACT** Ingrid Basheda at bashedig@dukes.jmu.edu.



What spectacle can be more edifying or more seasonable, than that of Liberty and Learning, each leaning on the other for their mutual & surest

support?

- JAMES MADISON August 4, 1822 In a letter to W. T. Barry **Mr. John Bridgeland**, Founder and CEO of Civic Enterprises and Vice Chair of the Service Year Alliance at the Aspen Istitute to make a service year a common expectation and opportunity for all 18-28 year olds will serve as the Constitution Day speaker for the Madison Vision Series.

"Citizenship, Big Ideas, and You"



The event is free and open to the public Thur., September 15th, 3:30–5:00 p.m.

FORBES CENTER CONCERT HALL

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY. www.jmu.edu/president/mvs/



**EDITOR** Rachel Petty EMAIL breezeopinion@gmail.com Thursday, September 15, 2016

#### **SPENCER MUNSON** | organized ramblings

# Not on 9/11

Booing the president's unifying message on such an important day was disrespectul



This past Sunday, September 11, marked the fifteenth anniversary of the horrific 9/11 terrorist attacks. The day also coincided with the first Sunday of the NFL season, which allowed for a myriad of moving tributes at stadiums across the country.

As the National Anthem rang out from scores of emotional fans, one couldn't help but feel moved by the solidarity and compassion that radiated from the fans, players and performers. Unfortunately, these patriotic performances

didn't come free of controversy and debate. Once again, all eyes were on Colin Kaepernick as fans waited in anticipation to see if the quarterback would kneel during the national anthem.

This symbolic expression of disapproval is one that Kaepernick has done in previous games this year and his continued commitment to his personal campaign came as no surprise to myself and many other NFL fans. Sunday's real surprise came in the form of overwhelming "boos" from fans, in various stadiums, as a response to President Obama's 9/11 tribute video showed at the games, which was meant to honor the fallen heroes from the tragedy as well as those in the U.S. Military who've fought and sacrificed to prevent any similar tragedies.

Last week I wrote an article defending Colin Kaepernick's decision to kneel during the National Anthem, citing it as an expression of his right to free speech and a medium through which he could express

his concern about a prevalent issue in the country. In keeping consistent with my principles, I'll defend the right of anyone who booed Obama on Sunday as I understand that they, like Kaepernick, were expressing their discontent with national issues.

I found the booing to be disrespectful because it was shouted over a video that was solely meant to honor the victims, their loved ones, the survivors and the brave men and women who took action as a result of the horrific events on 9/11.

I'd never want to live in a country where the citizens of that nation were banned or intimidated out of expressing their opinions in public arenas. This inalienable right, as I've stated before, is a fundamental facet of the freedom afforded to the people of America by our constitution.

An argument could be made that this disruptive act during a traditionally ceremonial practice is a method by which citizens can show dissatisfaction for the actions or policies of their political leader. I'd largely agree with such an argument. In this instance, however, I am slightly more disturbed by the method and forum through which these fans chose to express their dissatisfaction.

I didn't find these actions to be disrespectful because of my political affiliation, ideologies or even my opinion of the current president and his previous policies. I found the booing to be disrespectful because it was shouted over a video that was solely meant to honor the victims, their loved ones, the survivors and the brave men and women who took action as a result of the horrific events on 9/11.

The video played throughout the NFL stadiums on Sunday was a message of compassion on a day in which thousands of families around the country needed it most. It wasn't a political statement, a campaign plug or even a PR move for a future election, it was a call for unity around the country and it's through such unity that this country overcame the greatest domestic terrorist attack in the history of our nation.

The anniversary of 9/11 is an opportunity for this increasingly divided country to put aside political differences and stand in solidarity, for there's no greater way to honor those we have lost than by proving that their sacrifice has united us all.

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

#### ALLYN LETOURNEAU | Letournalism

# The Islamic double standard

Non-famous Muslims deserve the same acceptance as celebrities

#### **RISHMITA AICH** pride and prejudice

# Does your color define you?



Cruising through swarms of sweaty students at Student Organization Night was a rocky road, but the fatigue evaporated as my friend and I were greeted by enthusiastic club members at every step. While the representatives of a Latina sorority organization serenaded me, my friend was flocked by the members of a Christian sorority. She was presented with brochures from College Republicans and Catholic Campus Ministries, whereas I was courted to the Latino Dance Club and Vietnamese Student Association



Kevin Gates, the artist behind the infamous hit song "2 Phones," has blown up ever since his debut on  $\hat{X}XL$ 's Freshman Class of 2014. His newest album, "Islah," recently went platinum. Since "Islah's" release in January, it's apparent that his music has been played and sung by many students on college campuses, but not

many people know about Kevin Gates himself. Gates is actually a devout Muslim, and recently took a pilgrimage to Mecca to kiss the Black Stone.

Another well-known celebrity, Muhammad Ali, who died of Parkinson's disease this year, was Muslim. Currently, a handful of NBA Players are also Muslim, such as Dennis Schroder from the Atlanta Hawks and Enes Kanter from OKC

Thunder. If these famous people are supported and can be accepted as Muslim, why are Muslims in everyday life looked at negatively? Anti-Muslim hate crimes are still five times more common today than before 9/11, according to The Washington Post.

Islamophobia is defined as the "dislike of or prejudice against Islam or Muslims, especially as a political force." It's hypocritical for someone to discriminate against the Muslims in proximity to them but openly praise Gates or Ali. In fact, those famous Muslims have a very large political force against Islamophobia with the platform they're placed on due to their fame.

Of course I can't speak for the amount of direct

opposition that a famous Muslim faces, but the amount of opposition they face from religious discrimination seems relatively small compared to the amount of public support. For example, Donald Trump has a very obvious reluctance to accept Islam in our country with his Muslim ban, but openly commemorates Muhammad Ali's life. If those Muslim celebrities aren't subject to Islamophobic approaches, why should any nonfamous Muslim be either?

With the platform that celebrities like Gates have, they have a major role in turning the fear of Islam into a thing of the past. Gates posted a video of himself kissing the Black Stone to his Instagram

If those Muslim celebrities aren't subject to Islamophobic approaches, why should any non-famous Muslim be either?

explaining how he felt so accepted in Mecca by those guiding him. Because Gates is a famous rapper, he has the opportunity to broadcast his faith in Islam and bring acceptance to the Muslim community. Maybe Gates'

followers who are Islamophobic will reconsider their assumptions about Islamic people because of the respect they have for their favorite artist. Religious extremity exists in all beliefs, but much less often do you see a Christian publicly discriminated against because of the Ku Klux Klan or the Westboro Baptist Church.

It's our generation's responsibility to encourage acceptance of all religions and stop assumptions that each follower of a religion is associated with their respective extremist group.

Allyn Letourneau is a junior biophysical chemistry major. Contact Allyn at letourag@ dukes.jmu.edu.

It was hard not to notice the fact that we were approached on the basis of our ethnicity and physical appearance. Even though we laughed it off at the end of the day, I realized something big about JMU's culture: There's a salience of ethnicity and a prominence of our ethnic identities over other factors. The JMU family might be getting

bigger and more diverse with every new academic year, but are we becoming more accepting of the world too? In matters of equitable treatment, do actions really speak louder than words?

A couple of days ago, I was approached by a Democratic party supporter because he assumed I disagreed with a leading Republican candidate's views on immigration and it was worth sharing his political messages with me. He was right — I didn't — but his preconceived notion about my views on politics was primarily based on my ethnicity. These are the moments when I've become conscious of my "minority" identity.

Even though we laughed it off at the end of the day, I realized something big about JMU's culture: There's a salience of ethnicity and a prominence of our ethnic identities over other factors.

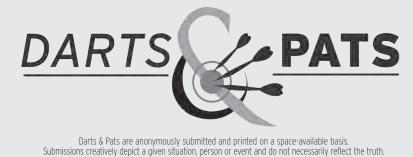
America is a melting pot of cultures and ethnicities, which means a heterogeneous society that becomes more homogenous over time. We all swim in with the tide and strive to blend in with the predominant culture. However, every now and then, we're thrown out of the pot and reminded of our ethnic origins and differences. Upon talking to some friends, I realized that conforming is a really hard yet inevitable process entirely uprooting one's racial identity is never a practical option.

Unlike me, most of my friends were born and raised in the U.S., and they've always felt at home except for some inevitable situations that tug at their ethnic or racial identity. My Jewish friend feels conscious about her minority status only during Christmas while everyone is putting up lights and singing carols, whereas my Chinese friend constantly feels conscious about her accent and her international status while socializing and participating in classes.

Having spent half of my life in India, I was blissfully ignorant of what it meant to be a minority. After starting college, I tried to establish my identity as a writer and a humanitarian, still turning a blind eye to my physical features. However, race started rearing its ugly head in almost all social situations. I had to learn to embrace it while intermixing with the rest of the population. From the time my friends joked about wanting a golden tan during the summer to the moments when I hear a political candidate's views on immigration, it's almost impossible to place my acquired identity over my inherited one.

Our race and ethnicity are integral parts of our identity, but sometimes they entirely take over us. I ended up observing the differences due to the salience of my racial identity. I believe that it's important for people to be aware and sensitive of the people around them and look at the world from their perspective.

Rishmita Aich is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Rishmita at aichrx@dukes.jmu.edu.



Submit Darts & Pats at breezejmu.org

A "that's-just-tacky" dart to the girls going out as "sexy homeless people."

lack of class is something you wouldn't find here.

#### An "I-really-needed-that"

pat to the super nice ladies who work the Starbucks truck. From an overworked, under-

slept, grouchy junior who needed someone to smile at her. A "stop-being-a-hall-ofsickness" dart to Harrison for being infested with too many germs to count. From a stuffy-nosed girl who's tired of coughing.

A "you-preach-it-girl"

pat to the writer of the street harassment piece.

From a student who appreciates you highlighting this personal but important issue.

A "thank-you" pat to the JMU Police Department for patrolling the upper Convo tailgates in a safe and respectful manner.

From a senior who's grateful for the Dukes' second win.

#### A "teachers-are-people-

too" dart to JMU for not giving us Labor Day off. From a student who respects her professors.

#### **Editorial Policies**

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.

From a Duke who feels that

Thursday, Semptember 15, 2016 –

**ARMIN HARACIC** | armchair anecdotes

# Why North Korea loves showing off its ego



Kim Jong-un is a nerd. He spent much of his Swiss education worshipping Michael Jordan, indulging in Sony Playstation games and watching Jackie Chan movies instead of going to class; a textbook experience of westernized education if I ever saw one. He also happens to be the

supreme leader of arguably the most isolated and oppressive country in the world, one that recently conducted its fifth and largest nuclear test in addition to having its citizens believe its governing family doesn't have to use the toilet.

The aforementioned nuclear test, which produced a 10 kiloton explosion and caused a 5.3 magnitude earthquake, is drawing yet another series of condemnations from the international community. These range from South Korea's hypocritical threats to reduce Pyongyang to ashes, China wagging its finger but not really doing anything and the internet providing pictures of President Obama defeating Kim Jongun in a game of "Yu-Gi-Oh!"

Much of the international community seems to be on edge due to the fact that a supposedly unstable country possesses nuclear weapons, made more nuclear threats than Nicolas Cage has made movies and that no number of U.N. sanctions — primarily trade and financial restrictions — seems to have deterred its nuclear state ambitions. The U.S. itself has responded to the nuclear test by flying two B-1 Lancer Strategic bomber planes over South Korea, to which North Korea responded by calling the move "blustering."

Yet "fear" is exactly what North Korea wants to elicit from the world in order to propel itself as a powerful actor on the global political stage. University of North Korean Studies in Seoul professor Yang Moo-Jin told the Washington Post, "Domestically, Kim Jong-un wants to present himself as a strong leader standing strong against the U.S. Internationally, this test is designed to show that sanctions imposed against North Korea are not working."

According to the American Enterprise Institute, North Korea wishes to gauge its nuclear arsenal to force a U.S. president to abide by its demands in the Korean Peninsula. What this would likely entail is the end of the alliance between the U.S. and South Korea and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the peninsula.

North Korea, instead of threatening to wage war against the U.S. as it usually does, has recently demanded that the U.S. recognize it as a "legitimate nuclear weapons state." North Korea's maneuvers of missile launches and nuclear tests are not only meant to grant the country more autonomy on the international stage, but also help in consolidating Kim Jong-un's absolute authority over his people.

Following its fourth nuclear test on January 6, 2016, the North Korean Central News Agency cited the deaths of despots Saddam Hussein and Muammar Gaddafi as reasons for continuing their cultivation for nuclear deterrence, stating that the dictators "could not escape the fate of destruction after being deprived of their foundations for nuclear development."

North Korea's government appears to believe that the prime reason why those particular regimes fell was because they lacked nuclear deterrents. Therefore, by strengthening its nuclear arsenal, North Korea hopes to become impervious to both international aggression and internal dilapidation, the latter being a factor Kim Jong-un attempts to avoid through his purging of several high level officials, including his uncle Jang Sung-taek.

A few days after its fifth nuclear test, North Korea announced that it had been hit with severe flooding, resulting in the deaths of 133 people and the displacement of 140,000 more. This has led the North Korean government to call for international assistance in relief efforts for the region, appealing to the same global powers that three days earlier had condemned it for its nuclear tests. Whether or not the world will heed North Korea's pleas for assistance remains to be seen, as the act appears to have all the implications of a schoolyard punk throwing mud in a teacher's face and then asking that same teacher to help wrap a bandage around their knee

Despite North Korea being the most heavily sanctioned country in the world, it remains unhindered in its nuclear prospects, with China blocking transportation of fuel and oil being the only possible recourse. Yet the Chinese themselves want North Korea to remain as stable as it possibly can as its economic collapse could result in millions of refugees migrating to Northeastern China, in addition to the loss of a key buffer zone between itself and South Korea.

The Nike and video game-loving geek from Switzerland seems undeterred in his quest to be a top dog in the game of international fist-shaking. Whether or not he gets to play defense on Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping's water polo team is only a matter of time.

Armin Haracic is a senior political science

#### **EMMY FREEDMAN** | Emmy on the Beat



Whenever someone starts complaining about a show that was canceled too early, hit them with these two words: "Party Down."

"Party Down" is inarguably the best and most humanistically realistic comedy to ever exist, so it's a real shame that there are only a grand total of 20 episodes of this hilarious show. It follows a group of struggling actors/writers/dreamers who work at Party Down Catering to pay their bills while they pursue their various ambitions in Los Angeles.

There's Henry (Adam Scott), a morose failed actor who watched his career crash and burn when he starred in a meme-able beer commercial. His only solace is Casey (Lizzy Caplan), an aspiring comedian and the object of Henry's affections.

Rounding out the core characters is Ron (Ken Marino), their boss, who would much rather be managing his own branch of Soup R' Crackers, the fastest-growing non-poultry, non-coffee franchise in Southern California, than dealing with his lessthan-enthusiastic employees.

Each episode offers a new location filled with hoity-toity people who engage with the caterers in varying degrees. This means that each episode allows for a slew of guest actors as far-ranging as Los Angeles Lakers player Rick Fox, Ken Jeong and Kristen Bell. Stand-out episodes include a party for mafia members, a senior citizens dating seminar and a community theater's opening night after party.

If all these juicy details still don't sell you, consider that this show was also created in part by Paul Rudd and stars the spectacularly hilarious and consistently upbeat pre-"Glee" Jane Lynch.

"Party Down" is comedic TV gold and always makes me feel better when my own plans don't seem to be panning out. So next time you're sad because you haven't become a successful actor yet, pop on some "Party Down."

#### = SATIRICAL NEWS COLUMN =

## 7 cool ways to repurpose your old clicker

#### **By MATT MURPHY** *The Breeze*

It's usually really large Gen-Ed classes that require students to purchase clickers, and afterward they become seemingly useless. There's always a rush between semesters of people selling their clickers, but perhaps there's another option for you. Here are some cool ways to repurpose that old clicker!

#### 1. Use it as a dog toy

There's nothing a puppy likes more than a brand new toy, and your clicker may be the perfect item for the job. From the chewy buttons to the smooth plastic just waiting to be chomped on, it's a surefire bet that your dog will be in heaven.

#### 2. Use it to make hip-hop beats

Time for you to jump-start your career as a DJ by throwing down some of the sickest monotone beat patterns you can come up with. The greatest musicians are the ones who push the envelope, and intermittent clicking noises might just be the perfect way to get that extra edge.

#### 3. Pretend it's a phone, I guess

Even if you have an actual cell phone, you could, if you really want to, hold the clicker up to your ear and pretend you're talking to a friend. That might be fun.

#### 4. "Clicker Ball"

It's sort of a mix between racquetball, rugby and data analytics. Your clicker is all you need for you and your friends to start up a great game of clicker ball, which has become very popular among college students.

#### 5. Trade up for a Lamborghini

"Trading up" is the art of bartering items of increasing value all the way up until you have something worth way more than what you started with. If you play your cards right, you could eventually trade enough for a brand new Lamborghini. Wouldn't that be awesome?

#### 6. Just click, baby!

The best part of having a clicker is the clicking, after all, so why not click all that you can? Click all morning, all afternoon and deep into the night. Don't be afraid to get a little crazy with it. You're expressing yourself.

#### 7. Marry it

In most states it's probably illegal to marry a clicker, but you could definitely have a ceremony despite this. Inviting your friends and family for an exorbitant wedding is a great way to make good use of your clicker, because nothing lasts longer than the eternal bond of marriage.

**CONTACT** Matt Murphy at murph4ma@dukes.imu.edu.

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major. Contact Armin at haraciax@dukes.jmu. edu.

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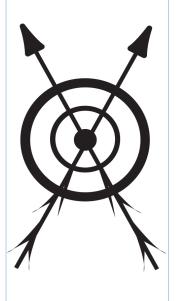
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EDITORS Emmy Freedman & Julia Nelson EMAIL breezearts@gmail.com

# Flavors of the 'Burg

"We've had all kinds of compliments from people, thanking us for bringing something different to downtown." **Rob Roeschley, owner of Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn** 





PHOTOS BY JAMES ALLEN / THE BREEZE

LEFT The owner of Dream Cones, Angeliki Floros, also owns one of the oldest restaurants in Harrisonburg, Jess' Lunch Downtown. TOP RIGHT BoBoKo, co-owned by Hotiman Ridwan, offers a medley of flavors including Vietnamese, Thai and Indonesian. It also provides gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian options. RIGHT The owners of Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn, which opened less than a month ago, wanted to bring a kernel of Ohio with them to Virginia.

#### **By ALISON GIPS AND EMMA KORYNTA**

The Breeze

The boxes are unpacked, walls decorated and doors opened. While this time of year is frequently associated with the move-in of new JMU students, several new companies have also moved in downtown. On July 20, Hotiman Ridwan and his co-owner officially opened BoBoKo Indonesian Cafe in the Ice

Shirley's also uses local ingredients to make their gourmet popcorn, featuring the standard moviestyle butterfly popcorn from a farm in Dayton. Roeschley expressed hopes to soon get their mushroom popcorn, which is the dome-like popcorn used for the caramel-based styles, from the local farm as well. Shirley's locations in Ohio and Harrisonburg feature the same flavors, but Roeschley hopes to tailor

the downtown location to the community. "Really the only ones that we will have different from any of the other stores will be if we decide ... to



Thursday, September 15, 2016

House on S. Liberty Street.

"BoBoKo is my concept inspiration," Ridwan said. "So in my country, when I was growing up, my mom steamed rice and put it in the BoBoKo [a basket made of bamboo] and then we would share it together and pass it around kind of like side dishes. So when I was coming up with the concept, I stuck to that name. It means a lot to me."

Ridwan describes his flavors as a fusion of Vietnamese, Thai and Indonesian. He uses ingredients from the Harrisonburg farmer's market to complement the vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options. In addition, he gets his chicken from Shenandoah Valley Organic Chicken, also located in the Ice House. Ridwan isn't the only one bringing fresh flavors to downtown Harrisonburg.

Rob Roeschley, one of the owners of Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn, has introduced new and bold flavors of popcorn, such as the Windy City Style mix of cheddar and caramel, to Harrisonburg after opening less than a month ago. While the Shirley's franchise is new to Harrisonburg, the Roeschleys have been in town for 24 years.

Roeschley and his wife Lisa met in college in Bluffton, Ohio, where the Shirley's headquarters is located. Once an empty spot downtown opened up, Roeschley was eager to take a little piece of Bluffton and bring it to Harrisonburg.

"From what I understand, our store and our unit here had been vacant for about a year," Roeschley said. "We've had all kinds of compliments from people, thanking us for bringing something different to downtown."

The popcorn flavors range from the movie-theater butter original popcorn to exotic flavors like the rainbow-colored Jelly Bean with six different fruit flavors. They cater to a variety of pallets, from the spicy Afterburner to the sweet-tooth's Buckeye.

come up with a flavor that would be unique for the JMU community," Roeschley said.

While these two new companies incorporate local flavors and products as they begin work downtown, one new company has had roots in Harrisonburg since 1922.

As the co-owner of Dream Cones, Angeliki Floros has been involved in the long-running family business Jess' Lunch Downtown since she came to Harrisonburg from Greece in 2002. Over the last year, however, she and co-owner Thomas Marchese have worked to bring their latest dream to life.

"It came together like small pieces of a puzzle," Floros said. "We didn't wake up one morning and say, Today we're going to make ... ' No, no. We had the building and we had to remodel it; we had to fix it. When you see the building, the building by itself tells you what it wants to be."

Floros originally thought she would use the building — which used to be Hole in the Wall, an adult entertainment store — as an art studio. However, after coming across an ice cream stand for sale, Floros and Marchese knew they wanted to bring a new ice cream shop downtown.

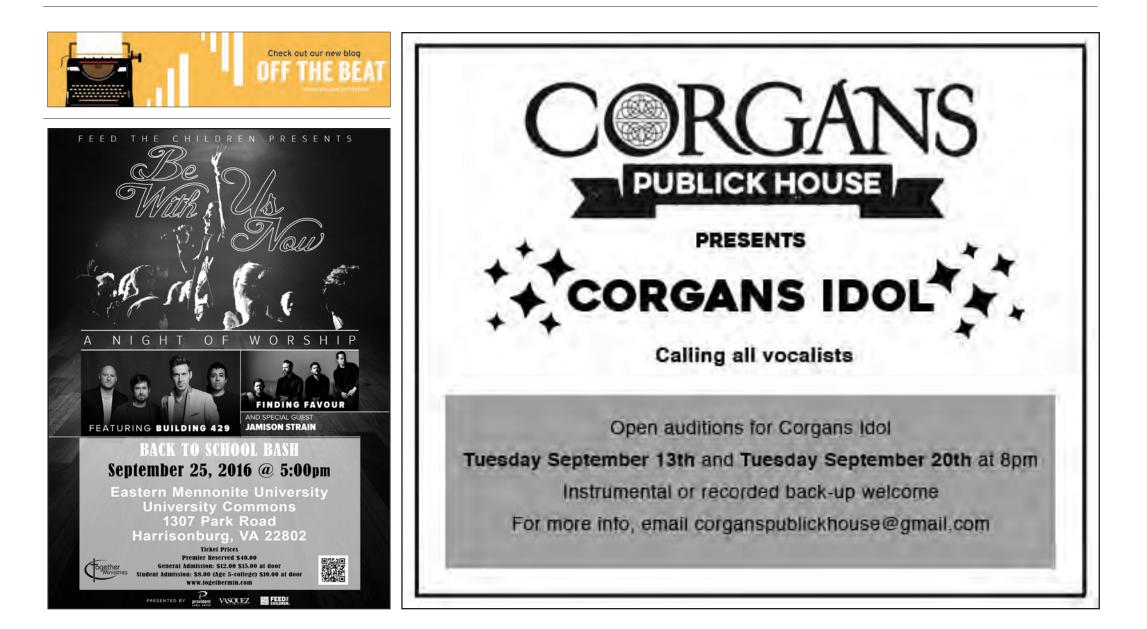
For the upcoming colder months, the ambitious duo plans to make cheesecake bites along with cappuccinos.

"I'm going to go to my Greek heritage [with] Greek coffee, which is like espresso [paired] with, we call it Loukoumades, but it's more dough, like fried dough with honey and ice cream [on the] side," Floros said.

Tasty treats like these are part of what makes downtown Harrisonburg unique. The new companies recognize that they wouldn't be where they are without the support they've received from the community.

"If you don't have a business in Harrisonburg, you don't understand how strong [of a] pillar the JMU students are for business," Floros said. "They support the business, they support the community."

**CONTACT** Alison Gips and Emma Korynta at breezearts@gmail.com.



# **Closed captioning** is advised

### Five international films that won't disappoint

#### **By MADDELYNNE PARKER** *The Breeze*

As college students, we're all busy with class and catching up on our social lives, but we can usually find down time to watch a movie or bingewatch a TV show. My go-to for movies is the foreign section of any streaming service where a gold mine of movies and TV shows hide. If you've ever been interested in watching foreign movies but don't know what to watch, here's a list of the top five foreign movies I think everyone should watch.

mould watch.

"Flu" is my favorite South Korean action/ thriller movie that was released in 2013. It's focused in Bundang, a

suburb of Seoul, where an avian flu virus epidemic results in the lockdown of the entire suburb. It then begins to address different issues between the government and its citizens during the event, as well as the citizens interactions with one another. The film will capture your attention in the first few minutes and keep you on the edge of your seat until the credits roll.

#### "Naked Among Wolves"

Another amazing movie that immediately struck an emotional chord in me is the 2015 remake of "Naked Among Wolves (Nackt unter Wölfen)." This film is set in Germany in 1944 just as World War II is coming to a close. It focuses on a group of men in the Buchenwald concentration camp who come across a toddler who's been smuggled into the camp. The heart-wrenching events that follow will leave you aching over the amount of pain endured by not only the prisoners, but also the German officers and guards, during the Nazi Regime.

#### "Farewell"

One of the first foreign movies I watched that really stuck with me is the French film "Farewell (L'affaire Farewell)," released in 2010. This film is set during the Cold War and the reign of the KGB in Soviet Russia. Although it's a French film, the movie really addresses the espionage that went on between Russia, France and the U.S. It shows the work of spies who release Soviet secrets to NATO and the Soviet's desire to steal technological information from the West. Unlike other stories of war, this one is set on a more intimate level by focusing on the lives of the two main characters and their desire to end the evils of Soviet Russia by helping the Allies.

#### "Ip Man"

"Ip Man (Yip Man)," released in 2008, is a Chinese film that centers around the life of a gentleman named Ip Man, a grandmaster of Wing Chun martial arts. He's a real person who's also famously known as Bruce Lee's trainer. The film is set in the late 1930s during the Japanese invasion where Ip Man is forced to leave his family and find work to support them. He then must use martial arts to train other Chinese in self-defense against the Japanese. It is the first film of the Ip Man series, and has won many different film awards in Asia, like Best Film and Best Action Choreography at the 28th Hong Kong Film Awards. Fun fact: Donnie Yen, who plays Ip Man, got slashed in the face with an ax during filming.

#### "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"

The last foreign film I think everyone should take the time to watch is the 2009 Swedish film, "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (Män Som Hatar Kvinnor)." It's based on the popular novel written by Stieg Larsson and has received great recognition across Europe. It is also the first book of the "Millennium" series. The story focuses on the search for a girl who'd been kidnapped 40 years prior. Her grandfather uses a financial journalist and computer hacker to solve the case involving his missing granddaughter, for which he thinks another family member is to blame. This is the original Swedish film from 2009, which is different than the 2011 U.S. version starring Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara. The story itself has stirred all kinds of discussion across the globe, and it's one of the few films that broke all comfort zones of mine without making it difficult to follow.

Foreign movies can be hit or miss, but of all five of these films, I guarantee one will make you rethink your outlook on non-English speaking films.

**CONTACT** Maddelynne Parker at parkermn@dukes.jmu.edu.

**APP** 3,000 people have registered for Spotluck in the past three weeks

#### from front

Donnie Yen stars in "Ip Man."

COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

"JMU makes a really great market for Spotluck just because the JMU community is so strong," DiRuggiero said. "It really is reflected in the Harrisonburg community as well. Everyone is very friendly, very community-oriented, and that's exactly the type of market we want to be in."

DiRuggiero and her team generate branding and marketing, and manage social media and email for Spotluck. She's also in contact with Spotluck ambassadors. At JMU there are about 30 students who're registered ambassadors, whose primary role is to spread the word about the app and explain how it all works.

So far, the decision to come to Harrisonburg has been a great one for DiRuggiero and Spotluck. According to Thomas, over 3,000 people have signed up for the app in the Harrisonburg area, and around 2,000 people have actually used the app to dine in the past three weeks.

"Harrisonburg is off to a roaring start," Thomas said. "I think that the culture within the community is something that is so in-line with Spotluck. If you survey everyone in Harrisonburg, would you rather go to a chain or a local Italian restaurant, far and beyond the answer is, 'I'd love to support local."

Of the 11 — soon to be 12 — restaurants in Harrisonburg collaborating with Spotluck, Food.Bar.Food is one of them.

Owner Amanda Cannon has been involved in Harrisonburg's restaurant scene for nearly 15 years. While the app is trending in the area right now, she feels that it will remain popular.

"It's not like a novelty app that's going to wear off," Cannon said. "It's not like everybody's talking about it now, but two months from now nobody's gonna use it. It offers value to the consumer and to the business." Along with giving discounts to consumers, Spotluck benefits businesses in a few different ways.

The discounts are calculated using a patented yield management algorithm, constantly fluctuating based on the day, time and weather among other factors that affect restaurant occupancy. This essentially means that discounts will be greater for consumers during slower times for restaurants — your discount will be larger during a Tuesday afternoon with poor weather than a Saturday evening in the 70s.

Restaurants also receive a merchant app, where they can read reviews, which are GPS-verified, leave a promotional message and upload photos. Restaurants can also view analytics. A few include how many customers Spotluck brought to them, the average age of their customers using the app, the average discount used at their restaurant and the restaurant's popularity among others in the same market.

"The insight and information it offers the restaurant on the back end is really helpful," Cannon said. "I feel a lot more confident in getting the feedback from people that I know were actually here."

Spotluck has plans to launch in more markets in October, with its largest launch, New York City, in November.

"Harrisonburg got kind of that first dibs, sneak-peek thanks to yours truly, Lauren," Thomas said with a laugh.

As a former JMU student, DiRuggiero is looking forward to continuing to work closely with the JMU and Harrisonburg communities.

"Being able to bring the Spotluck community that I helped form back and integrate it with [the JMU and Harrisonburg communities] is just really amazing," DiRuggiero said.

**CONTACT** Richie Bozek at thebreezeweb@gmail.com.

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# Dukes struggling despite preseason accolades

After being picked to finish second in the Colonial Athletic Association, JMU women's soccer is just 2-6 to start the season



CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

Junior forward Ashley Herndon shields the ball from defenders. The team is hopeful about upcoming conference play.

#### By MATT TYSON The Breeze

The 2016 season for the JMU women's soccer team has gotten off to a rough start.

Following a 2015 campaign that saw the Dukes win the Colonial Athletic Association championship, the team is currently 2-6 overall.

"We're disappointed with the results," Head coach David Lombardo said. "We've had some injuries, coupled with a nonconference schedule ranked 15th."

Three of the Dukes' losses have come at the hands of teams ranked in the top-20 nationally. In addition to the difficult schedule, the various injuries on the team have forced some players to make adjustments to their positions.

"We joke about winning being a great deodorant," Lombardo said. "When you're winning you don't dwell on things, but losing makes everything feel magnified."

This week at practice the team will be working to improve crucial areas of their game. A top concern for the coaching staff is improving the team's defense and defensive pressure.

Another area Lombardo feels needs improvement is offensive possession. Working on these aspects will play a key role in getting back to winning.

"I wouldn't say we're doing things wrong," senior defender Jennie Sroba said. "We've got a good attitude; we're playing really well. It's the little tactics we can't get."

This Friday's game against Virginia Commonwealth University will be the Dukes' final nonconference game of the regular season. Following this game both coaches and players are looking forward to returning to their CAA schedule. "I feel like since our nonconference schedule was so hard it definitely prepared us better for what's to come," senior midfielder Allie Bunner said. "We've learned from the past so hopefully we can excel in the future."

Of their first four CAA matchups, only their first game against the College of William and Mary features a team with a winning record. Following this the Dukes will square off against a 3-4-1 Towson University team, a 4-4 Drexel University and a 1-7 University of Delaware. While these records don't guarantee wins, Lombardo feels that everything they've gone through this season has them ready to turn the season around.

"Hopefully we can bank experience. There are good players in the CAA, but no top-25 teams," Lombardo said. "I think if we keep our confidence up it'll pay dividends at the end of the season."

Lombardo isn't the only member of the team who believes confidence will play an important role in turning the season around. Players have been emphasizing how important it is for them not to dwell on their earlier losses.

"It's 100 percent attitude," Sroba said. "We're 2-6 but we can still do it. We just need to take it game by game."

The team's run in the CAA last season is also serving as a motivator. A conference championship in 2016 would mark the first time in team history that the Dukes would be back-toback CAA champions. Accomplishing this after their issues in the first half of the season would be a special feat for the whole team.

<sup>"</sup>Our mentality is really good; we're still engaged," Lombardo said. "We have one more non-conference game and we're ready to hit the reset button."

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## HARRISONBURG SEARS

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#### The Dukes travel to UNC this weekend with hope to upset an FBS foe

#### By KEVIN HASWELL contributing writer

The James Madison Dukes stayed hot with a 56-21 win over Central Connecticut State University on Saturday. They'll look to continue their success this Saturday as they travel to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to face the University of North Carolina at Kenan Memorial Stadium. The Tar Heels play in the Football Bowl Subdivision, one level up from what the Dukes currently play in. With a win last week over the University of Illinois, the Heels moved to 1-1 on the season. The Dukes and Heels will kick off at 3:30 p.m.

#### 1. Have the right mentality

In order to pull off the biggest upset of the college football season so far, the Dukes can't shy away from the big stage. Last season, the Dukes upset their FBS opponent, Southern Methodist University, 48-45. They went into that game averaging 51 points per game. The key with last year's team was that they thought that they could upset SMU.

"We just have this belief in ourselves, that we can do anything we put our minds to," senior wide receiver Brandon Ravenel said. "We are a good football team, and I think we can compete with any team out there."

This year's team has started off the season even better than last season. The Dukes' high-powered offense is averaging 68 points per game. The offense will have to be just as successful this week as they were against CCSU. If the offense puts up stats like they have been, the Dukes will be in a good position to upset the Heels.

Head coach Mike Houston has a knack for upsets, as the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina football team upset the University of South Carolina last year in Columbia, South Carolina. With the past experience that Houston has, the Dukes have all the reasons they need to go into Chapel Hill believing they can win.

#### 2. Control the ball

The Dukes' high-powered offense is averaging 562 yards per game over the first two games. The hurry-up offense will have to take a back seat this week. While the offense has been playing well, they need to slow down their game and win the time of possession. The Dukes don't want to give the Heel's offense time to score. The last thing that they want to do is go three-and-out on multiple possessions. So by slowing down the play on offense, North Carolina will have less time to score.

In order to slow the offensive progression down, the Dukes need to stick with their running game this week. The running backs will set up the passing game, which will give the Dukes a balanced attack against the Heels. Running the ball on first and second downs will be a huge key to win the time of possession. If the Dukes fall behind early, they might have to pass the ball more in order to get back into the game. Whoever wins the time of possession this week will win the game.

"Time of possession will be very important," senior running back Khalid Abdullah said. "Time possession is important in any game. But we are more of an up-tempo offense, so if they are going to try and play keep-away, we just need to capitalize on every possession we have."

#### 3. Defense needs to come up big

The success of the defense will be one of the most important keys to this weekend's battle. The Dukes' defense has been tremendous so far this season, allowing 203 yards per game. They're facing a whole new monster this week. Junior quarterback Mitch Trubisky is completing 67.2 percent of his passes this season. Getting pressure on the quarterback should be a focus for the Dukes' defense.

In order to win the time of possession, the Dukes will need to force short drives for the UNC offense. The longer the defense is on the field, the more tired they'll get. Forcing multiple three-and-outs will be instrumental in the Dukes pulling off this upset.

"This year the defense has been incredible for us, if we play how we have been playing, then we will be just fine," Ravenel said.

The UNC offense is averaging 36 points per game this season, which puts them in the top-50 of the FBS. The Dukes don't want to get into an offensive battle with one of the most explosive offenses in the FBS. The defense will be extremely important in making this happen.

#### 4. Force UNC to make mistakes

To win an upset game, forcing turnovers is very important. Once a team loses the turnover battle, their chances of winning go down exponentially. The Dukes will have to win the turnover battle in order to win this game. When Houston's Citadel football team upset South Carolina last season, the team didn't turn the ball over once.

"The turnover battle will be paramount this week," Abdullah said. "We are trying to play a perfect game and come out with the win."

In 2010, JMU upset Virginia Tech 21-16. In that game, the Dukes beat the Hokies in the turnover battle, 3-0. The Dukes will need to hold onto the ball this week if they want to steal this game from the Heels.

"We can't let them off the hook this week," Houston said. "If we go out there and compete, then I think we are good enough to compete with them."

The Dukes and Tar Heels will kick off at 3:30 p.m., and you can watch the game on the WatchESPN app or ESPN3.com. The game will also be televised regionally on Comcast SportsNet.

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### **FOOTBALL** Running backs Johnson and Abdullah go from childhood friends to college standouts



CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

Redshirt junior running back Cardon Johnson shakes off a tackle in JMU's win over Central Connecticut State.

#### from front

Now that they both sport the purple and gold, Johnson and Abdullah have only seen their bond as teammates grow. The two of them took very different paths at the collegiate level to get to where they are today. Johnson tore his Achilles tendon prior to his first season after being redshirted as a true freshman, while Abdullah was able to make an impact his freshman year.

Last season, Johnson and Abdullah were finally able to play a full season side-by-side, and the results were staggering. The duo combined for 2,012 rushing yards and 23 touchdowns, both highest marks for any rushing back tandem in the entire Football Championship Subdivision. Two games into the 2016 campaign, they're back at it again. Johnson and Abdullah have already combined for 381 yards and six touchdowns through the team's first two games, and they aren't showing any signs of slowing down.

"I think they're both very similar in that they're kids who come out and work hard every day," head coach Mike Houston said. "Certainly they have different running styles, but their core characteristics are the same."

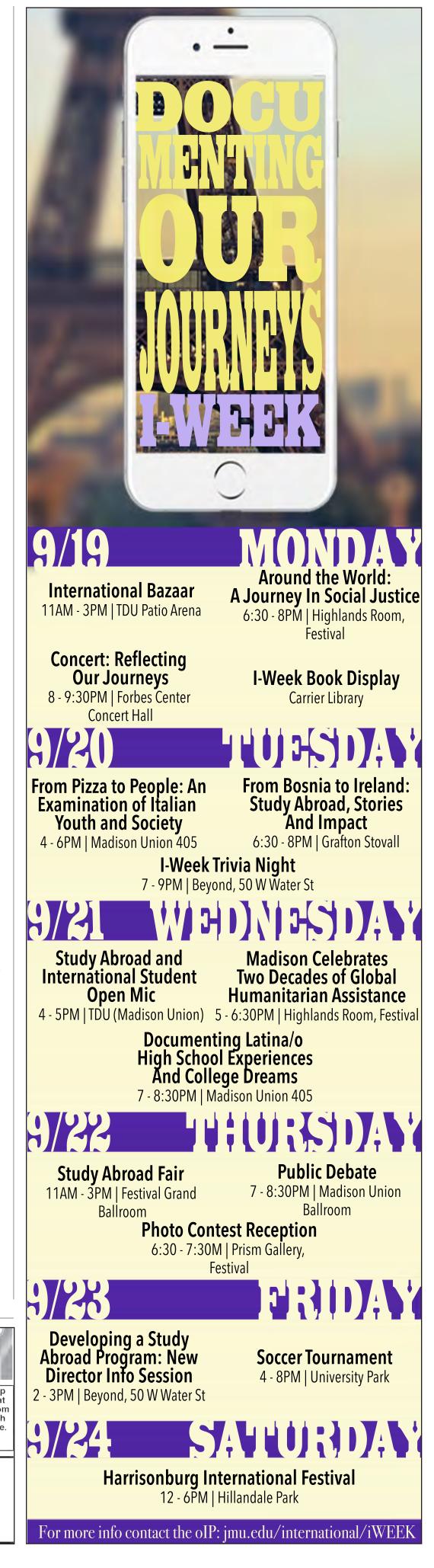
This season will be the final year Johnson and Abdullah are able to play together. Abdullah, in his final year of eligibility, has his days as a college athlete numbered. For now, however, the duo is still one of the best running back combos in the country. Defenses may be able to slow them down, but good luck keeping them from pushing right back.

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# Volleyball off to hot start

Dukes look to continue their early success this weekend





CONNOR WOISARD / THE BREEZE

The Dukes scrimmage each other during a practice in preparation for their upcoming tournament this weekend.

#### **By ARIANA REEDER** contributing writer

Last year, Sinclair gymnasium became an unheralded gem for fans of JMU athletics as the volleyball team raced out to a 21-3 start. Despite the early season success the team faltered down the stretch and finished the season at 22-8. This year, the Dukes hope to turn a 7-3 record into late season success.

The Dukes have gotten off to a strong start once again this season. Their 7-3 record has them primed for their Colonial Athletic Association schedule that kicks off later this month.

"We have taken a couple of losses but I am glad they are happening now," senior Janey Goodman said. "We see errors where we need to improve and we go from there."

Since Goodman has joined JMU volleyball, her 1,315 kills rank fifth in program history. Through 10 games this season, the reigning CAA Preseason Player of the Year already has 151 kills.

Despite the kill totals and individual accolades she's received, Goodman's main focus is winning.

"I just want to win the CAA championship; that is my goal," Goodman said. "I just want to be able to lead my team with confidence and motivate them and show them that we really can do it — I believe in us."

For the Dukes to win the CAA title they'll have to finish stronger than they did last season. After the team's 21-3 start the Dukes went just 1-5 down the stretch and failed to reach the NCAA tournament. JMU hopes to use strong preparation in order to finish off challenging conference matches as the schedule gets tougher.

"I think we prepare the same for pretty much every team," associate head coach Casey Steinbrecher said. "No matter who the opponent is, we should try to play our game mentality is 80 percent of the game as it is."

The Dukes hope to learn more about their team at the George Washington Invitational this Friday and Saturday in Washington D.C., as the beginning of conference play rapidly approaches.

"We have three really good opponents so we expect some strong competition," head coach Lauren Steinbrecher said. "That's what we want because we want to see where our weaknesses are and where our strengths are and what we can continue to build upon." JMU kicks off the the George Washington

Invitational against Northern Illinois University at 11 a.m. on Friday.

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