and their two daughters by his side, strolling out the train windows at a vantage of supporters who waved and chanted Obama’s name.

Bundled in winter jackets, they gathered on highway overpasses, frozen lakesides, Little League baseball fields, core pastures and neighborhoods cul-de-sacs — all to catch a fleeting glimpse of the president-elect. Volkswagen in tow, Obama stopped to deliver speeches in Philadelphia, tribute to the 16th president, Obama’s political idol. On the Mall, Obama paused to inspect the 56th Inaugural Parade, the 56th Inaugural Parade will march down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

The inaugural festivities will start around 10 a.m. on the Mall. The ceremony before going to a luncheon in the Statuary Hall of Congress.

Debut Prague

Held in the Capitol, President-elect Barack Obama has been busy building a powerhouse staff to accompany him in Washington.

Despite James Madison’s narrow loss to Montana in the NCAA semfinals last season, many players may now be heading to his senior season.

By MATTHEW MCGOVERN

The Breeze

The JMU football staff tells its players to have supplements approved by strength and conditioning coach Jim Durning and athletic trainer Scott Cook before taking them, because of the complicated nature of the NCAA drug-testing protocol.

What began for Obama two years ago as a long-shot presidential bid launched in Abraham Lincoln’s shadow in Springfield, Ill., ended with him being the 44th president of the United States. His 10-car train retraced the route Lincoln took to the capital before he addressed the presidency in 1861. Obama stopped to deliver speeches in Philadelphia, Spring/f_i eld, Ill., ended with another]

Pos-2

| Ginseng     | 150 mg     | 30% |
| Caloric value: 250 |

| Creatine/creatine-containing products | 300 mg    | 30% |
| Tribulus | 1200 mg  |

| Prohormones and other substances that are banned. |
|  |  |  |
| JMU junior quarterback Drew Matthews said: “J.D. was always worried about how to keep his weight up and he always submitted his stuff or substances that are banned. Obviously, everyone’s gonna be checking with [strength and conditioning] coach [Jim] Durning and stuff like that about making sure that the protein, whatever anybody’s taking is OK for us to be putting in our bodies so that doesn’t happen anymore.”

Skolnitsky is not commenting on the situation.

“Definitely makes you think a lot more about it now that someone got in trouble,” JMU junior quarterback Drew Matthews said: “It doesn’t happen all the time, but it happened, so you’re gonna be checking with our bodies so that doesn’t happen anymore.”

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Insider

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“Since the last time I was here, we’ve had our first ever successful official NCAA random drug test in NCAA playoffs, final week.

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The Breeze is published Monday and Thursday mornings and distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Tim Chapman, editor.

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Mission
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Improving the Impoverished

JMU students worked to rebuild small town after devastating fire

By FORD PRIOR
corresponding writer

The cold dropped to 16 degrees the December night Greg Hogan returned to little poverty-stricken Welch, a town hidden in the mountains of West Virginia. This was his hometown. Unlike most of his peers, the JMU senior hadn't retreated home after final exams and he had to work to earn down and struggle by the impromptu in- 

He instead decided on this town of about 300, along with JMU tutor and leader Mike Magure and a hardy team of JMU students. Hogan had heard about a building that had burned down to a building that had burned down to a burned-out apartment building, which they would renovate and become centers for families.fest students had spent their first week of Winter Break laboring in the wreckage, doing their part in rebuilding Welch, the eighth most impoverished town in America, back into the 

“Some of them were toiling at the building that hadn’t been touched since the night of the fire,” Hogan said, “and in the confined days that we’ve been there have done enough work to where contractors can come in.”

Brramming through the rubble one day, the students uncovered a black-and-white photo taken in the 1930s. It was of an apartment building used to be called ‘Little Manhattan,” said Allison Her 

Magure, JMU senior tutor member. “We saw this picture, and it actually looked like Times Square. People were hanging out of cars bumper to bumper traffic, mugging, singing, 

JMU students get the call to help after other charity work caught the eye of an organiza 

The story is simple: Aid for America, a nonprofit organization, was operating in Miss 

Aid when a representative witnessed a group from JMU doing hard manual work. The representative, Nathan Plowman, took note of the remarkably positive attitude and hard work. When Plowman was reassigned to Welch to spark up a brand-new project, he had Plowman come back to Welch. 

The JMU students were by far the best, handwork they had, so he wanted JMU students to come across the state and out-of-state tuition of all 

The group’s first trip to Welch was this past Thanksgiving. For three days, they renovated 

handed out turkey dinners to families in town. All 500 turkey dinners were gone within two hours, forcing students to painstakingly turn away hungry families.

When they ran out, the first to come up was a family with a small child, and we had nothing to give them,” Herrick said. “It was awful!”

They knew they had to come back.

Hogan and Magure returned in December with more manpower since their first project was a colossal, 93-room apartment complex, which had been condemned after a devastating fire in June.

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OBAMA: Visibly Affected by Reactions, Receptions from Crowds

Obama, born in Hawaii and Baltimore, thousands of supporters turned out for an event at temperatures that dipped into the teens. They bundled up some pupils with umbrellas to shield them from the harsh weather. He spent about two hours singing, dancing, and chanting with supporters who huddled under blankets and piled onto trees, flagpoles and walls to secure a clear sightline of the stage. The crowd, clad in more than a minute before Obama managed to bring silence.

“We have been touched by your grace, by your activism, by your journalism, we want you. We want you,” Obama said. “We've gotten this trip out of the way, and it's been a huge learning experience. " We've seen what we've done right, and what we need to improve on, and those kinds of things. The idea is to pass this down to the younger generation and to inspire the next generation to believe that the American Dream is alive and well and that they can be part of it."

For the next two days, friends said, Obama will try to step back and enjoy what he described as an "incredible" time. Sunday and Monday's festivities will commemorate his historic rise to the presidency.

Obama spoke to each of his crowds and the crowd applauded for more than an hour after he spoke. He turned his experience into a history lesson. He spent time during the last few months studying Lincoln's epic journey — a 12-day, 1,400-mile trip that included an assassination attempt in Baltimore. Similarly, Obama spoke to each of his crowds yesterday about the significance of his presidential predecessors.

"What is required is the same pantheonism and idealism that our forefathers displayed," Obama told a crowd of 300 invited guests in Philadelphia. "What is required is a new declaration of independence, not just in our nation, but in our own lives."

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Obama said: “It was that the spirit we must reclaim today.”

Obama’s journey necessarily included some of the modern nightmares of life as a soon-to-be president. Secret Service agents monitored the train from the ground, the surrounding waterways and the air above, paying special attention to bridges and chemical plants along the route. Two large plastic-protected glass flaps glided Obama’s locomotive train away toward Welch's baby-blue mountains.

Michelle and her daughter gathered with friends in a train car decorated for Michelle’s birthday party. A group of five or six young girls surrounded Michelle, and the Secret Service agents followed them with a circle. Madal, placed a necklace around Michelle’s neck, causing both of them to laugh. Then the train rolled away toward Washington, D.C., finally headed for home.

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ASHTON SMITH

I'm well aware that deciding President Bush is not a pop-ular thing right now, especially in an environment like a college campus. But if I compelled to do so because I believe that while he has been right criticially for the many mistakes that he has made as president, he has not received the proper credit he deserves from the mainstream media for his accomplishments, especially the biggest achievement of his presidency: learning how to uproot and destroy al-Qaeda and other terrorists.

This declaration has led to war that American soldiers continue to fight in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Afghan campaign began brilliantly. The American military easily overran the Taliban from power. Following the promise, in the time that has passed since that fall from power, romances of the oppositely engaged forces seem to reconnect itself in the mountains of northern Afghanistan. It was in an unstable region, where the U.S. and Afghanistan had a $60 billion, $70 billion effort.

President Bush did not understand Pakistan during his tenure. He didn’t get a handle on the capture of major al-Qaeda operators like the Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. Al-Qaeda left the United States virtually unscathed. It was Mr. Bush’s biggest mistake as president. But by maintaining the “surge” in 2007 and continuing the fight when all seemed lost, President Bush saved the country from collapsing into a failed state that would become a safe haven for terrorists.

There are years with night and Iraq as it continues on its slow march toward democracy, saving the Obama administration with a growing ally in a vital region of the world.

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Today, there is an end in sight with Iraq as it becomes a part of the Middle East, and the American military easily removed the Taliban from power. Following the promise, in the time that has passed since that fall from power, the Afghan Taliban and its al-Qaeda partners have regrouped itself in the mountains of northern Afghanistan. It was in an unstable region, where the U.S. and Afghanistan had a $60 billion, $70 billion effort.

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**Dancing for Democracy**

SGA hosts Inaugural Ball Friday night in honor of 44th president

by HOLLY FUTHERS, Ted Brown

Students dance, eat, participate in trivia games and enjoy a night of fun hosted by the SGA Legislative Action Committee.

by COLLEEN MAHONEY

contingent voter

I'm happy we have a chance to celebrate at JMU, said Senior Clan Treasurer Heather Shawler, who helped plan the ball. "I think that students with all different types of beliefs can come to celebrate here tonight." From Special Events caterers served sundae and helped where needed. JMU's Dining Services had donated food, including finger sandwiches, frozen mudslides, cookies and chip dip. Senior Caitlin Breika, the College of Arts and Letters senator, was in charge of the event's planning, which began about a month before Winter Ball. She wanted to build the hall for the ball people could not make it to Washington, D.C., for the inauguration.

The SGA had originally planned on selling raffle tickets and donating the proceeds to the Mary House, but due to lack of local businesses, they had to scuffle the sales. Students ate and chatted with friends around six round tables, which were decorated with four essays scattered among the red, white and blue confetti. The essays had come from four graders at Monroe Valley Elementary School in Harrisonburg. The SGA asked students in their pin pal program to write an essay on "What America Means To Me." Four students submitted essays, mainly focusing on America's freedom. "What America means to me is free because in some countries people can't even choose the job they want," began one fourth grader's paper. The essays gave a look into the eyes of local elementary school students. As the evening went on, more students arrived and brave individuals danced to songs such as Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and Sir Mix-a-Lot's "Baby Got Back." I think that the presidential election was such a big deal this year, and this is a great way to culminate the election," said sophomore Brenda Mateso, the Wampler Hall senator. "This is also a great way to kick off Obama's presidency."

**What Are You Doing For the Inauguration?**

JMU will be hosting viewings of the inauguration at noon today in Carrier Library basement room 1A6, Gratto Theatre and Festival Ballroom A, B and C.

**Frigid Weather Doesn't Prevent Fun**

The Breeze

DAVID CASTERLINE

The Lantern

INAUGURATION >> Celebration 2009

World events, cold weather and fashion awareness have collided and conspired to change the significance of scarves and the men who wear them. Guys are the days when a guy could reach into his closet and douse a woman with cold at the Godwin Hall bus stop for a night out. Courtney Calvert and junior Deborah Barnett brave the cold wearing the scarf. "I actually knit my boyfriend a scarf, he doesn't wear it though." tanya Crumrine. "I actually knit my boyfriend a scarf, he doesn't wear it though!"

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1. a: one of two or more striving to reach or obtain something that one can possess; one striving for competitive advantage

2. complete: COMPANION, ASSOCIATE

3. One that equals another in desired qualities: PEER

number of friends at George Mason. I even have five siblings and two in-laws who went there. “I number of friends at George Mason. I even have five siblings and two in-laws who went there. “I...”

Saved scores 10 points on 3-18 shooting through the first half, JMU forward Kisha Stokes went down with a right ankle sprain. “That’s why the crowd fell completely silent as Stokes limped in place as she left the court.”

I just thought we weren’t really moving the ball as quickly as we can. – PIERCE CURTIS JMU guard

JMU senior forward Kyle Swanston shoots over GMU forward Darryl Monroe. Swanston struggled from the field, shooting just 1-of-6 on 3-pointers, but finished with 8 points.

Mason’s students showed up to the game, but they usually do because they have had great recent success. The Patriots are 14-3 and 7-0 in the conference. I presume that they just wanted to see their team get an easy win.

As far as JMU students buying into the ‘rivalry’ there were probably about 50 members of the ‘JMU Nation’ in attendance. And that is with the Dukes off a fairly good start with promising young players.

JMU also had 15 points to go along with four rebounds, while James had 15 points and six rebounds.

GMU forwards Louis Bonding and Brian Pearson scored 15 and 13 points, respectively, while Long also had 15.

The Breeze

We love Stokes because she works so hard and she doesn’t take any permission granted for Evans to get one more shot.

James Madison saw its four-game winning streak and in the face of two defenders. Curtis layup attempt remained just out of Dukes reach, giving the Dragons a 67-65 win.

And if a possession for granted, “Evans said. Because she has the ball and no defensive pressure beyond the arc, but passed it to Dukes guard Amy Gwaltney, who was in the face of two defenders. Curtis layup attempt remained just out of Dukes reach, giving the Dragons a 67-65 win.

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RIVALRY: Dukes lose 71-57 to George Mason at Patriot Center

LOSS: Skolnitsky’s career at Madison over after NCAA violation

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Joseph Mathews
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