Virginia Tuitions May Rise 10 Percent

Higher Ed now a middle-class dilemma

© The Washington Post

Richmond — Virginia public colleges and universities are considering raising tuition this fall by as much as 10 percent to make up for massive cuts in state funding.

The potential for a dramatic tuition increase has state legislators worried that Virginia’s well-educated middle and higher class system might be moving beyond the reach of many middle-class families. But they disagree sharply on how to solve one of the most pressing problems remaining from the state’s estimated $2.9 billion shortfall.

Members of the House want schools to voluntarily hold harmless increases below 6 percent in return for extra state aid. Legislators want to let schools raise tuition as needed and provide more financial aid to students. Neither approach, legislators agree, is likely to satisfy parents or students. Neither approach, legislators agree, is likely to satisfy parents or students.

"I must tell you that this continuing trend in tuition increases is very disturbing," said Delegate John Squires of Virginia Tech, this morning.

"We will seriously consider whether or not we will accept more students for this fall." — LINWOOD H. ROSE Jr. / President

Student’s Death Gives Organs to Others

By ASHTON SMITH

The Breeze

Victoria Faye Alcantara was less than a week away from celebrating her 21st birthday, but instead of attending a party, she lay in a hospital bed, her organs now being used to save others.

"It was a horrific car accident, but she was not in pain. Ever. She didn’t have a bruise in sight on her. It just looked like she was sleeping," said junior Christina Renald, a friend since fifth-grade.

"I want to see her in the hospital on Saturday, and I really didn’t know what to expect," said another junior, Claudia Pron.

"I was just like, ‘This can’t be real,’ " said another junior, Kristin Ratliff.

Senior Bianca Monroe has known since high school that the United States is planning to send military forces to Iraq. The news took a different turn on Sunday.

"I wanted to join the Peace Corps right out of high school," said Monroe.

"The Peace Corps is a great way to give back to the country and also to see the world. It’s a great opportunity to make a difference and help others."

Alcantara worked as an office assistant in the Peace Corps. She was an organ donor and because of that she was able to give to five people, possibly saving other lives.

"It’s what she would have wanted, being a nursing student," Renald said.

"I think the university should have the final decision, according to Egle." — SNOW, page 4

Snow falls over the railroad tracks Tuesday morning, before freezing rain took over and iced roads. Classes were delayed two hours Wednesday.

JMU 21st in Peace Corps Members

Seniors to join 44 alumni already serving the world

By ARANNA WITT

Chief writer

Once the caps are thrown and the post- commencement celebrations have ceased, a few newly minted alumni may find themselves in countries such as Morocco, Bulgaria and Fiji. Besides all being developing countries, these nations share another community by serving as posts for the Peace Corps.

In far away places, the recent graduates will be applying their fresh degrees in a less traditional manner than their peers.

"Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are critical to the U.S. economy and our global competitiveness," said the Peace Corps.

Senior Bianca Monroe has known since high school that she wanted to follow a different route after college.

"I want to join the Peace Corps right out of high school, but I decided to come college first to get a better perspective," said Monroe, a sociology major.

"I became more aware of the differences in the world and realized more and more that I wanted to experience them for myself."

ON THE WEB:

Breaking news and original videos

Coverage of Wednesday's men's basketball game against Old Dominion

Recap of tonight's women's game against Towson

www.breezejmu.org

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

Virginia to Make Tuition Increases of 10 to 15 Percent Next Year

By ARIANA WITT

The Breeze

The Virginia General Assembly continues to consider higher education as a middle-class dilemma.

Virginia's well-regarded higher-education system might be moving beyond the reach of many middle-class families. But they disagree sharply on how to solve one of the most pressing problems remaining from the state's estimated $2.9 billion shortfall.

The General Assembly goes under the roof of the Virginia capitol building in Richmond, Va. on Wednesday.

"Two years that Virginia has slashed aid to higher ed and the economy is prompting students to return to college to acquire new skills, as many laid-off workers are attempting to do two years ago," said Delegate John Squires of Virginia Tech, this morning.

Recent increases have state legislators worried that Virginia's well-educated middle and higher class system might be moving beyond the reach of many middle-class families. But they disagree sharply on how to solve one of the most pressing problems remaining from the state's estimated $2.9 billion shortfall.

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Iraq Elections Could Reduce Kurdish Power

QARAQOSH, IRAQ — Iraq's upcoming provincial elections have escalated tensions among the traditionally ethnic tribes that form the backbone of the country's Kurdish autonomous region in the north.

As Election Day draws nearer, the province where, the most notable political figure is a Kurdish politician who is expected to win a comfortable majority.

In Kneesh, where the Kurdish Authority in Nineveh, is widely expected to win a comfortable majority.

The provincial elections have exacerbated tensions between the traditionally Arab parts of the region and its Kurdish autonomous region.

The Breeze

WASHINGTON — The long-awaited stimulus bill passed through Congress and headed to the president's desk, where it is expected to be signed into law.

The bill, which represents a significant step towards economic recovery, was passed after weeks of intense debate and negotiation.

The Breeze

WASHINGTON — The Breeze is a student-run newspaper that covers the campus and local community. The Breeze strives to be impartial in its reporting and fairly reflects its views in its First Amendment rights.

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

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POLICE

On Jan. 23, a JMU student was charged with underaged possession in Garber Hall.

On Jan. 24, a JMU student was charged with public drunkenness at the Godwin Hall bus stop, and a student in Garber Hall is facing judicial review for an alcohol violation.

On Jan. 28, a student was charged with being drunk in public in Chauder Hall.

On Jan. 23, a JMU student reported the theft of a handicapped parking sign valued at $200.

On Jan. 24, a JMU student reported the theft of a $400 mountain bike outside of Jackson Hall.

On Jan. 25, a JMU student reported the theft of nine shower curtains from two bathrooms in Chesapeake Hall.

On Jan. 23, there was a fire alarm investigation, a police officer discovered a malicious exterior discharge resulting in damage valued at $25.

On Jan. 25, a JMU student reported property damage to their laptop computer in McGraw-Low Hall.

Drugs

On Jan. 24, students were charged with possession of marijuana in Logan Hall, Wayland Hall and Garber Hall.

Larceny

On Jan. 22, a JMU employee reported the theft of two sets of twins.

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The Washington Post and Los Angeles Times
Circuit City, America’s second-largest electronics store chain, filed for bankruptcy in November and will close all 567 stores in the U.S. by the end of March.

Circuit City is a victim of a national trend. According to the Circuit City Web site, “Closing sales will run as long as it takes to sell existing inventory but are expected to wrap up by the end of March. When the liquidation is completed, the stores will be closed.” These liquidations are run not by Circuit City itself but by a host of independent, private liquidators.

At the moment, discounts linger at around 30 percent, but those will inevitably come to an end. Customers’ best strategy is to stop by every week or so and check prices until they’re gone.

“I’ve already been once, but 20, 30 percent off isn’t that big of a difference,” said Terri Wilson of Bryn Mawr. “As soon as we are able to replace or repair electronics that have been damaged or have failed for whatever reason, we’ll be closed,” the store said.

For Circuit City loyalists, after March 31, 2009, when Circuit City’s closing? Good for some and bad for others, apples will be in the furthest reaches of the national market post.

As for employees, the liquidation of Circuit City represents a big loss to Circuit City shareholders and a 14,400-laid-off-employees, but will strengthen the remaining electronics retailers, especially Best Buy said. William C. Wood, JMU economics professor and director of the Center for Economic Education.

Ground employees will presumably keep their jobs until their respective stores close, and behind-the-scenes workers — like many at headquarters in Richmond — have received a 60-day window to find new work. A ground employee who is laid off at Circuit City as soon as possible.

So if the laptop, flip phone, iPod or flat screen TV you need replaces the next two months will be the time to do so cheaper.

Meanwhile, college students can plausibly see at least one reason to smile: cheap electronics. According to the Circuit City Web site “closing sales will run as long as it takes to sell existing inventory but are expected to wrap up by the end of March. When the liquidation is completed, the stores will be closed.” These liquidations are run not by Circuit City itself but by a host of independent, private liquidators.

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AALANTARA: Will Have Scholarship Established In Her Name

Alicantea, from front member of alpha Kappa Delta Phi sorority. She joined the sorority in Fall 2007.

Her sorority sister, senior Kelsa Paynelle, said she started bloom drives and adopted a higher cleanliness. But something Alicantea took great pride in was her role in community service seat.

In that position, she organized fundraisers and service events for the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

THE MEMORIES

Alicantea said that one of her favorite memories of Alicantea was when they traveled to Europe with their high school orchestra. Alicantea played the oboe for nine years.

The trip included stops in Austria, Budapest, the Czech Republic, and Germany.

“We were at this restaurant in Budapest, a very, very traditional Hungarian restaurant, and the waiters dressed in Hungarian attire,” Ali said.

They started dancing to traditional Hungarian folk songs and “Viktoria was one of the luckiest, unluckiest people to be chosen to dance with the Hungarians. They were yodeling and doing traditional Hungarian things, and it was really fun!”

According to Ali, her favorite memory was “Lilo and Stitch” and she was really into Disney and Hello Kitty.

“She has a Hello Kitty trash can, Hello Kitty lunch box, Hello Kitty box of tissues, and she would always give us a friend that had Hello Kitty on them. But some of Alicantea’s other favorite things included her two favorite colors baby pink and baby blue.

“They had everything in these colors,” Ali said. “Once we joked about her baby blue Timbers and, since those shoes are the epitome of manliness and ruggedness.

But along with her love of pastels, was her love of school. According to Ali, Alicantea was brilliant.

“I had chemistry with her in high school, and I probably would have failed if it hadn’t been for the class, the class was so good at it. So bad at it, Ali said Tuesday.

Beyond good grades, she was planning to make sure that she received herself a nursing a nursing, and that seventeen years came across something that Alicantea had not mentioned she was doing.

“So, we, all seniors were cleaning our room and packing her belongings for her parents this afternoon, we found an application to intern at Georgetown Hospital for the summer,” Ali said Tuesday.

“She would’ve made an excellent nurse and there is no doubt about it.”

Alicantea’s boyfriend, Mike Lopez, a junior at Christopher Newport University, was her high school sweetheart. They celebrated their five-year anniversary this past year.

Lopez has since returned home to Northern Virginia for the arrangements, which have not been announced yet.

But some family will have to fly a long way to attend.

Alicantea returned to the Philippines most summers, because she was a “proper” Filipino and has family there.

“I was blessed,” Ali said that she was glad she got to see Alicantea over Winter Break last time. Because of their different majors, they rarely were able to see each other while they were at school.

“Over Winter Break I was really blessed to have seen her and her boyfriend and we went to IHOP after midnight,” Ali said. “But the next time we talked was about what we wanted to do after school, and I was like, ‘Well, let’s just call it back on that, I was so lucky. Of course we had no idea what was in store for us, and it was a great time and we realized that we had grown up.

As for now, Alicantea’s sorority will look to use her legacy around the JMU community. They also are picking up a second philanthropy in her honor. JMU, alpha Kappa Delta Phi sorority, will be establishing the Victoria Alicantea Scholarship for nursing students.”

Ali said, “We have some things we want to discuss. We have more details with the university yet, but we want Victoria’s name and legacy to live on and to help female nursing students financially. We want to make sure that JMU and the university have a relationship with us and we want a good connection for the students.”

Wednesday night in front of Wilson Hall, several gathered to hold a vigil for Alicantea and remember the friend they lost.

SNOw: Some Pros Hold Saturday Classes

Snow, from snow, is one thing they should listen to, Harrisonburg Public Safety officer has the best solution.

Steve Bates, a sophomore from Towson, Maryland, and a junior at Harrisonburg High School.

“Over Winter Break I was really blessed to have seen her and her whole family’s home.”

Academic records. “People assume that by joining the Peace Corps, you’re going to just go out and help, but that’s not true. You have to live with the host family and you have to learn their language and culture, and sometimes that can be really difficult. But anyone who’s going to do this, it’s a life-changing experience.”

After being accepted, the volunteer is placed at a location based on their background, skills, and interests. As for the response volunteers have to this unique experience.

April Simun, who spent her time in the Peace Corps in Moldova, posted her story on the Peace Corps site, saying, “They thank you for being here and for teaching their children.”

APRIL SIMUN Peace Corps Volunteer

Volunteers are given intense language training and educated for the lessons they have taught me. I wish to help female nursing students, those with financial need, dedication to community service and excellent academic records.”

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Alicantea Scholarship for Nursing Students

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TUITION: Number of Jobs Added Below Average During Holidays

Unemployment from page 3

more people feel business conditions are poor and fewer expect their incomes to increase.

Those sentiments were underscored by predictions of dismal retail sales this year by the National Retail Federation. Tuesday, the NRF estimated that sales would dip 0.5 percent this year, the first decline since the trade group began tracking the figures in 1995. The bleak outlook was another sign of American shoppers' reluctance to spend during the recession.

"We are not optimistic about consumer spend- ing in the near term," said Rosalind Wells, NRF chief economist.

The group predicted sales will drop 2.5 percent during the first half of the year from the comparable period in 2008. The third quarter is expected to decline by 1.1 percent before turning a positive 3.6 per- cent in 2009. The third quarter is expected to de- cline by 1.1 percent before turning a positive 3.6 per- cent during the first quarter.

Fewer shoppers have meant fewer jobs. In Vir- ginia, thousands of jobs were cut by Reynolds Food Packaging, LandAmerica Financial Group, Qimonda North America, a Thomasville Furniture plant and numerous retailers, said William Monger, chief econ- omist for the state's Employment Commission.

"Normally, Virginia adds 25,000 jobs during the holiday season. This year, it looks like it was 12,000 to 15,000," Monger said. Besides having fewer new hires, he added, retailers are putting more employees on furlough because of weak sales.

Eric Seleznow, executive director of the Maryland Governor's Workforce Investment Board, said retail jobs dropped by 5 percent from December 2007 to December 2008. The losses, he said, were triggered in part by closings of KB Toys, Circuit City and Fila's stores.

"People are looking for any new strategy or idea to get people redeployed," Seleznow said.

Financial Aid Deadline Approaching in March

March 1 is an important deadline for many students across the nation. Missing this deadline can have consequences for those continuing their education.

March 1 is the deadline to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the government to receive financial aid.

Brett Barnett, senior associate director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, recommends filling out the application on-line to ensure meeting the deadline. If you are submitting a FAFSA through the mail, Barnett suggests mailing the application two weeks before the deadline to ensure it arrives and is processed in time.

FAFSA can be completed online at fafsa.ed.gov. The staff of the Office of Finan- cial Aid and Scholarships is prepared to as- sist students with filling their FAFSA.

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholar- ships is located on the third floor of Warren Hall.

— Staff Reports

Tuition: Prospective Students Have Reason to be Concerned

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Unemployment

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The Breeze

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GUEST COLUMN

JASON WARYSKI, contributing writer

While it may be fashionable to believe that the folly of ill-planned interventionist wars — especially aid to the seemingly feeble regime of the current administration — is so phenomenally flawed that it is truly amazing that it still gains traction in intelligent circles today. This idea of using government money to “create jobs” is particularly absurd; for every dollar that is “pumped into the economy,” money must first be taken out of the economy through taxes or future borrowing. If one thinks that this is a foolishly simple way of looking at interventionist stimulus spending, then the time has half-right. It is simply foolish.

If we are to decide that billions must be used to prop up the economy, why not, as a Republican Congressman suggested in a meeting with President Obama, simply give that money back to the people by means of tax cuts?

Across the board, tax cuts would spread money and incentives to work and produce. An increase in the influx of special interest groups and their lobbyists seeking to use the current situation as leverage represents the revolving door between the executive supremacy. It also throws doubt over the executive’s ability to instate new ethics rules — a move which represents an attempt to force the lemons out of the lemon’s shell by using government money to prop up the economy, a more dire consequence of the supposedly bipartisan achievement. (And as all good conservatives know, bipartisan achievements are usually the creeping signs of an emerging kleptocracy.)

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dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars dollars 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The events surrounding Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich’s corruption charges and impeachment proceedings are not so shocking, given Illinois politics’ steady reputation. Even less so given the waves of scandal that, of late, break upon the American public perpetrated. What's fascinating is Blagojevich himself.

The man wanted Oprah as a senator. It’s not the mere idea of Oprah in public office that’s so ridiculous. After all, there was (fringe) buzz surrounding her before the 2008 presidential campaign. It's the notion of a sitting governor seriously considering her. It illuminates the man’s character, his desire for popularity and his political ambitions.

I watched in his press conference; he vowed (and with poor delivery) to “fight until his last breath.” He quoted poetry—Rudyard Kipling’s perennially popular “If”—to be exact. I like that poem; I even liked it when Brand New adopted some verses for their song “Sowing Season.” But Blagojevich flippantly reciting the poem, hollowing out the words for his own weak defense, was insulting.

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Consider Larry Craig, who refused to admit explicitly what really went down in that airport bathroom and further refused to resign, even after pleading guilty. Or Hillary Clinton, who held onto the reins of her presidential primary campaign long before she should have backed her off. She gave the speeches and made the appearances long after conventional wisdom (and most likely, herself as well) acknowledged there was no hope.

Politicians are incapable of publicly admitting unpleasant truths. That’s a given. What adds insult to the brazen way in which they counter the truth head-on with their own painstakingly crafted, thematic defense narratives.

Such is politics.

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*The Washington Post*

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**The NFL’s Forgotten Hero**

By BILL PLASCHKE

The Los Angeles Times

Last weekend, Madison led 13 points with 10 seconds left, but the Monarchs answered with a quick three-pointer.

**Dukes Look to Rebound Against ODU**

By Staff Reports

GEORGE MASON

Inaguring two tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan, he represented the ultimate perseverance of all of us.

In agreeing to two tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan, he represented the ultimate perseverance of all of us.

**Tennis Hopes to End Skid**

**As JMU’s No. 1 individual player, junior Mike Smith (9-8 in singles play in the 2008-09 season)**

**Men’s Tennis Remaining Round of 16**

Feb 14 St. Bonaventure

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Feb 28 Georgetown

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At the time, Tillman was 27, and he had been offered millions of dollars from NFL teams confident he could be the team’s running back. "We haven’t beaten them when it means the most," Walz said. "I think that game, you know that, it was such a great feeling because it was a culmination of so many years of getting better and getting very close, and then finally getting over that hump," JMU’s seventh-year coach said.

"There might be only 16,000 fans there, but, you know, there’s only 16,000 fans there, so you might as well make them your fans," Tillman said. "There is a chance if Tillman were still alive, he could be playing in this Super Bowl, a 32-year-old raging star finally being reward for his Cardinals." Tillman’s work in Iraq was widely regarded as exemplary, and his sacrifice had a profound impact on the military and the country. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation’s second highest military award, for his exceptional heroism.

"What Tillman did, the man, they all loved him, and he loved them," said Brooks. "Tillman’s spirit lives on in the Phoenix area. There is a chance if Tillman were still alive, he could be playing in this Super Bowl, a 32-year-old raging star finally being reward for his Cardinals."
Salsa Dancing Spices Up Thursday Nights

By GABRIEL HENRIQUEZ

The Artful Dodger draws large crowds with inexpensive dance lessons and a renowned E-Street Band.

By JESS NOVAK

Springsteen Scores, Yet Again

By RACHEL CHERMENY

FASHION >> Redefined by Class

Learning the Art of Costume Creation

By BRENDA RODRIGUEZ

What Is Your Pet Peeve?

ABOVE: Senior Lauren Ramirez tries on the corset she wore in "The Rover" during costume design class. LEFT: Professor Johnson shows the class of 12 students a typical costume sketch and some final products. Many of the costumes made by the class are used in campus productions.

Star Power Can’t Save ‘Harvey’

Thompson, Hoffman lack on-screen chemistry

By BRENDA RODRIGUEZ

The Observer, Notre Dame

Sometimes, when two big stars come together, there’s instant movie magic. The instant chemistry of two people who really get each other, a pair of geniuses, a perfect couple, the two actors involved, a pair falls a little flat. Claire Evans and Brad Pitt are both strong actors, but “Meet Joe Black” was a depressing disappointment.

The stars of “Last Chance Harvey,” Emma Thompson and Dustin Hoffman, shouldn’t have this problem. Thompson is almost criminally underused in the film as Kate Walker, a lonely American who takes a chance on a wealthy London welder. When he skips Susan’s reception to fly home and nail a critical business deal, she wonders if he’s just another player. But despite both Hoffman and Thompson being cinematic heavyweights, the pairing never clicks. It’s due to both actors talent that film fails at all, but the result is an underwhelming 82 minutes of two people who deserve better material.

Harvey, Shakespeare, by conventional standards, is a loser. His job as a commercial music composer is hanging by a thread. His youthful ambition to get his own jazz quintet has clearly fallen to the wayside. And his daughter Susan (Liane Balaban) just asked her stepfather, Brian Swann, to step up and help her produce the line of corsets she’s wanted for so long.

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The Breeze

Thursday, January 29, 2009

BEST FITNESS RATES IN TOWN!
FITNESS PLANS AS LOW AS $26/MONTH

- One on One Training
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- Cardiovascular Equipment
- Cybex Strength Machines
- Locker Room/Shower Facilities
- Ladies Only Tanning Zone
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Discounts at www.totalbodyplace.com

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BY KENNES ICE CREAM

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FREE WEEK TRIAL MEMBERSHIP
Join our family before your busy school year starts!

Harrisonburg OB GYN Associates
Committed to Women’s Health and Our Community
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Get your ad in this Special Section! Deadline is TODAY!

THE RIGHT PRICE AT THE BEST LOCATION

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Owned and Professionally Managed by 111 American Campus Communities
long pine poles — the kinds of poles once used by Plains Indians. Childs always had a fascination with Native American culture, so for him, living in a teepee wasn’t a far leap from normalcy.

"On a lot of people’s standards, what I did was pretty radical," Childs said. "But I wanted to demonstrate that you don’t have to do something extreme to make a real change in the world."

"I grew up in a family that supported Native American activism groups that I’d wanted to be a part of, and I couldn’t participate in the environmental activism here on campus because I didn’t have the time to work on papers because I didn’t have the freedom."

"I don’t feel like you have to do any thing radical or extreme to make a real change," Childs said. "There are small things that people can do every day."

The environmental benefits of living in a teepee included using only rechargeable, battery-powered electricity, showering in less than 10 minutes, composting food scraps, recycling waste, and buying local, organic produce, which Childs demonstrated prac-
tical that anyone can adopt to make their carbon footprint smaller.

For his last semester at JMU, Childs moved into an apartment in town. He still maintains a lot of the environmentally friendly practices he picked up while living in the teepee, though, and plans to go back in six months.

Although Childs prefers living in a teepee to more traditional living styles, he strongly believes that most of the environmental benefits of living in a teepee can be reproduced in any existing situation.

"I’ d make a pot of coffee, go sit outside and watch the sun rise," Childs said. "Every night I take my groceries and I drift away, "Childs said. "To me, a teepee is a symbol of freedom."

"I tend to feel very despondent when I can’t bring the outdoors closer to me. "

Childs' day-to-day life was much like any college student. He went to class, main-
tained an on-campus job — and made the Dean's List last semester. Childs had to go into campus early or stay late sometimes into campus early or stay late sometimes to work on papers because he didn’t have the electricity to charge his laptop for longer than an hour. And, paradoxically, he couldn’t participate in the environmental activist groups that he wanted to because of the work he had to do on his land. But, “everything felt a lot more natural from the beginning,” Childs said.

"I don’t like you do have to do any thing radical or extreme to make a real change," Childs said. "There are small things that people can do every day."

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DESIGN: Class is All About the Little Details

Design, page 11

One of JMU's students, junior Krista Siegert, said the students in the class are able to learn design techniques so that they will be able to start constructing their own costumes some day if they wish, whether it be for a career in fashion or merely a hobby.

"I find the class very interesting, especially to see how intricate [the clothing] in some periods were," Siegert said. "The class is also an outlet for what I want to do after school."

Most of the students enrolled in Johnson's class have performed in JMU productions, or aspire to this semester, and therefore are especially interested in all the work that goes into designing costumes.

One student in particular, senior Lauren Ramsey, starred in a JMU production "The Rover" in November. With one of the main roles in the production, Ramsey's costume was particularly elaborate.

Throughout the play Ramsey was dressed in a corset, had two different dresses and even bloomers, which were common in the 18th century to accentuate their hips, were added to her outfit.

Johnson explained in prose of Ramsey's costume to show the class, as they sat, cried and laughed as Ramsey tried on her costume on once again.

While Ramsey admitted that the corset constrained her and it was harder to breathe at first, she didn't mind her complex costume.

"I actually enjoyed wearing the corset because it was fun and different," Ramsey said. "It takes care of everything and slims your waist," she added with a laugh.

New Ramsey is taking a talent step further. Given a budget, she has been helping to design the costumes for one of the Theatre II's upcoming productions "Columbus," a more student-run, experimental theater piece.

Ramsey said she has had experience designing with class in her JMU, and that she will take those same techniques to sign this semester to help her with her project.

While it will be a lot of work, Ramsey said the end result is well worth it to her, and she said she especially loves the particular approach to her whole design in the costume.

"They're so fun and detailed... so colorful and differing designs," said Ramsey.

To experience some of these extravagant costumes for yourself, attend the next JMU theatre production "City of Angels" Feb. 24-26. The show will be held in the Latimer-Schaeffer Theatre in Duke Hall.

Costume Design (THEA 115) is offered once a year and is open to all majors with no prerequisites. Visual Aspects for Theatre or basic design courses in Art are recommended.

For more information, contact Johnson at 644-1914 or jthompson@jmu.edu.

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