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## TODAY'S FORECAST

67°  
50°

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# The Breeze

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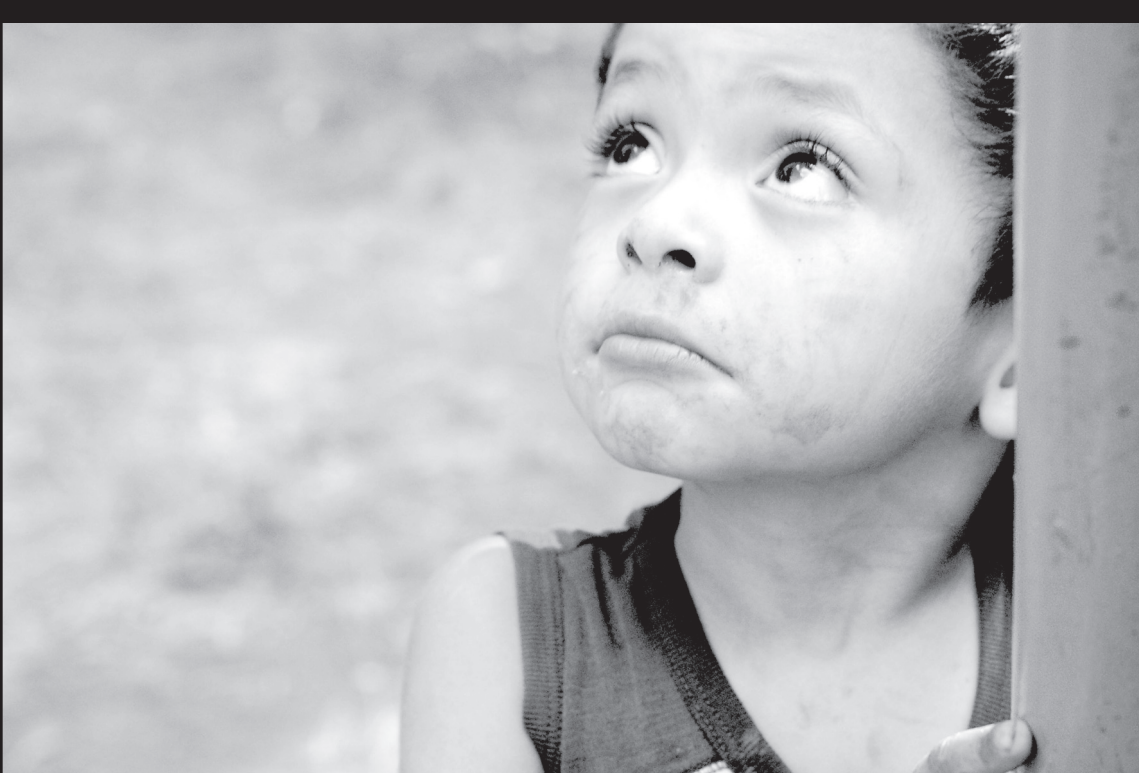
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2009

VOLUME 85, ISSUE 46

## Breeze Spring Break Photo Contest Winner:

■ see page 7 for the second place photo

# ASHLEY BEAUDIN



## 'La Cara de Nicaragua'

Online comments about the JMU senior's entry:

"The pathos... is incredible, and it worked for me on several levels. The boy's face evokes in me a feeling that he is watching us all leave spring break, that when we are back in the luxury of JMU he is still there, watching the sky hoping that at least God has stayed behind to take care of him. The space Beaudin created in the picture adds to this loneliness. The black and white creates a sense that the boy is almost fading into the backdrop, reminding us that it's easy to let those we've helped over spring break dissolve away into our memory.

... Indeed, I see in the boy's wet eyes a light that makes the other sun-drenched pictures seem dull." - **Bobby**

"[It] captures the reality of life in Nicaragua on many levels. An evocative portrait with a heart! Not your typical Spring Break on the Beach photo." - **Suzanne**

"[It's] the perfect representation of the true hope and faith that lies in a county that is given so many reasons every day to have neither." - **Catherine Taylor**

## Chef's Table Spices up D-Hall

Three-course gourmet meals offered at just more than a punch



courtesy of STEPHANIE HOSHOWER

D-Hall serves desserts as the capstone of the three-course meals.

ALLIE CONROY  
contributing writer

style food Monday through Friday for lunch and dinner, for a punch plus \$5.99, on average.

Students receive a voucher from the cashier when they order the Chef's Table meal. They then take it to the chef, who starts preparing the first course. They can get all three courses at once or get each course separately, and the chef punches the voucher accordingly. The chef prepares the food right at the Chef's Table

See **GOURMET**, page 5

## Carte Blanche?

Faculty Senate debates opening all classes to seniors

"All JMU undergraduate students with a class standing of 'senior' should be permitted to take any undergraduate class offered at the university not required for the student's major, prerequisites notwithstanding, on a space-available basis"

- The version of professor Ming Ivory's proposal that was tabled at the March 26 faculty senate meeting

### SUPPORTING change

"If [the] university suppresses that open-endedness of education, I think they're doing the students a disservice."

- MING IVORY  
ISAT professor

"I think we need to come out with a proposal that creates a set of courses that seniors could take ... It won't be all courses, it'll be some subset of all courses. I'm hoping we can get as many as possible."

- VAL LARSEN  
marketing professor

### OPPOSING change

"It would be like a student joining your class in the 13th week and expect them to pass the final exam."

- DAVID FORDHAM  
accounting professor

"If you have someone constantly asking questions about basic stuff everybody else has already learned, it can disrupt what's going on in the class."

- ARCH HARRIS  
computer science professor

By **AMY PASSARETTI**  
*The Breeze*

Should seniors have free reign to take any course they want?

This was the main issue debated at this month's faculty senate meeting.

ISAT professor Ming Ivory,

who is not part of faculty senate, proposed that undergraduate seniors should be allowed to enroll in any class, despite their major or any pre-requisites that may be needed.

"Education is a shared responsibility and students should take more responsibility in defining

their own education," Ivory said. "If we don't ever expect them to do it or allow them to fail then it seems to me we're not really giving them the skills to make their own decisions."

However, a majority of faculty senators strongly opposed the proposal, which was ultimately tabled at the March 26 faculty senate meeting.

"As it was described by one person, the reaction was between, 'No' and 'Hell no,'" Ivory said.

Ivory proposed this change mainly based on her own undergraduate experience at Tufts University in Boston, Mass. She also felt many changes around campus have taken the power away from students, one example being limiting GenEd classes to freshman and sophomore year.

Some seniors think this would be a good idea and are interested in having the chance to take more classes outside their major.

"It's unfortunate to be limited in the classes you can take," said Brian Weiss, a senior media arts and design major. "Especially since JMU emphasizes we should be well balanced people."

Weiss also feels it would

See **SENIORS**, page 5

## Only One Office Contested, Debate Poorly Attended

By **ASHTON SMITH**  
*The Breeze*

Guest punches?  
Quadfest?  
Transparency?

These were some issues of the *The Breeze* and SGA co-hosted debate Tuesday on the Festival Patio.

Despite the expressed passion of the candidates, it wasn't mirrored by student interest as an audience of about 20 people, mainly connected to SGA and *The Breeze*, attended. Student representation for SGA positions was also an issue since only five applied for four positions.

Only one of the positions is being contested, which led moderator and former *Breeze* Opinion Editor Whitten Maher to focus on two candidates.

Sophomore Dan Smolkin and junior John Scott are competing for vice president of Administrative Affairs.

Scott was asked in a student submitted question why he chose to run



Sophomore Dan Smolkin (left) and junior John Scott (right) are running for Vice President for Administrative Affairs. VPAA is the only contested office this year. Voting ends today at 7 p.m.



TYLER BRADSHAW/contributing photographer

for a position he wanted to eliminate last semester.

"At the end of last semester, we were discussing executive reorganization," Scott said. "We were trying to move things around to see how

things best fit. At the time I didn't really know what the vice president of administrative affairs did. I didn't see how that position was being utilized within the organization or with the administration."

After hearing the executive council and advisor explain the position, Scott said he knew it had to stay.

Smolkin emphasized that his experience in building two fraternities gave him an advantage over Scott.

Scott was quick to return that Smolkin left being a senator for the year to be a representative — to Scott that meant a lack of dedication.

"I don't know why that is," Scott said about Smolkin's absences. "I've been in the organization and my level of commitment hasn't waned ever."

But Smolkin said this was because of his class schedule, and that a particular class was only offered in the fall and during the SGA meeting times.

"It's not about submitting bills," Smolkin said. "You have to really be willing to go out there, get your hands dirty and get down to work if you want to see change."

Scott said his experience being in SGA for three years would help to effectively expand this position.

"This university is special in its administration," said Scott, when referring to how the JMU student government has more opportunities

See **DEBATE**, page 4



## POLICE LOG

### Larceny

- On March 29, a JMU student reported the theft of a \$300 fire extinguisher and \$75 worth of damage to a Shorts Hall water fountain.
- On March 30, a JMU employee reported the theft of a \$350 nylon sign near the tennis courts.
- On March 26, a JMU employee reported the theft of \$173 worth of milk products from a Gifford Hall vending machine.
- On March 30, a JMU student reported the theft of a \$150 unattended white Schwinn bicycle from Garber Hall courtyard.
- On March 26, a JMU employee reported an \$88 theft of a departmental Apple laptop.

### Property Damage

On March 29, a JMU student reported \$1,000 worth of damage to a keyed vehicle.

### Drug Violations

On March 26, police arrested two JMU students for possession of marijuana in Potomac Hall.

### Alcohol Violations

Last weekend, police arrested four non-students for allegedly being drunk in public on Bluestone Drive, in Eagle Hall, at the Godwin bus stop and at the Warsaw Parking Deck.

# Page 2 World/National News

## Violence Erupts at Economic Summit

**LONDON** — As President Obama was holding one-on-one meetings Wednesday with the leaders of Russia and China, thousands of protesters marched in the streets of London, and there were several violent clashes with police.

A mob of protesters, many of them with their faces hidden by bandanas, smashed windows at a Royal Bank of Scotland building in the City, as London's financial district is known. RBS has been one of the highest-profile banks hit by the current economic crisis and was essentially nationalized to keep it from failure, at a cost of billions of dollars to British taxpayers.

Hundreds of protesters charged police, who hit back with batons. Police estimated that at least 4,000 demonstrators were in the area.

While some protesters were focused on the global economic crisis, others in the city were concerned with the war in Iraq, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and other causes.

"The message is very simple -- we want troops out of Iraq and Afghanistan, an end to the siege of Gaza, stop the arming of Israel, and the creation of jobs, not bombs," Lindsey German of the Stop the War Coalition told reporters.

## N. Korea Warns Against U.S. Missile Intervention

**TOKYO** — Having alarmed much of the world with its planned launch of a long-range missile, North Korea is showing no signs this week of wanting anyone to calm down.

The government of Kim Jong Il warned Wednesday in a radio broadcast that its forces "will relentlessly shoot down" U.S. reconnaissance aircraft that monitor preparation for its missile launch, which could occur as early as this weekend.

That warning against "brigandish U.S. imperialists" came on top of North Korea's announcement on Tuesday that it would put on trial for "hostile acts" two American journalists who were detained in mid-March after they apparently crossed from China into North Korea.

This spring, the headline-making provocation is a three-stage missile that sits on a launch pad in the northeast of the country. It is scheduled for launch sometime between April 4 and 8.

North Korea says the rocket is part of a peaceful research project to send a communications satellite into orbit. The United States says the real purpose of the launch is to test a Taepodong-2 ballistic missile that could reach the western United States — and could one day carry a nuclear warhead.

## Private Universities Entice Class of 2013

**WASHINGTON** — Many private colleges have admitted more students than usual this year, hedging their bets as they wait to find out whether families find higher tuitions difficult to manage in the recession.

After years of increasing selectivity driven by bumper crops of strong applicants, many private college officials are concerned that more students will turn to public universities, which are less expensive. As of Wednesday's deadline to notify most applicants, many schools have sent out more acceptance letters and e-mails, built bigger waiting lists and pumped more money into financial aid to lure students to their campuses.

The bottom line: It will be slightly easier to gain admission to some private colleges this year, officials said.

The private schools' concerns are part of a confusing overall admissions picture for the high school Class of 2009, the largest ever at 3 million students. Many public universities have experienced increases in applications, but it is unclear whether that has made admission more difficult across the board.

— The Washington Post and Los Angeles Times

Check out new videos online at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org)

### MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student and faculty 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 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 complaints should be addressed to Tim Chapman, editor.

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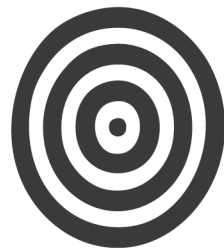
# The Breeze

what JMU reads.

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A scavenger hunt challenge that hopes to create interactions between you and fellow JMUers and members of the Harrisonburg community!

**Saturday, April 4th from 10am-6pm**



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Teams of 4-5 people are required

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Guest Speaker: Marcus Engel



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# NEWS

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## Better to GIVE than To Receive

By MEGAN WILLIAMS  
*The Breeze*

Students will travel to Washington, D.C. on April 16 to support certain bills being considered in Congress.

At Tuesday night's meeting the Student Government Association passed a series of resolutions outlining three of the four issues the members will lobby.

The first two are the Senate and House of Representative's respective legislation: increasing money for the GIVE Act, which promotes student volunteerism through organizations such as AmeriCorps. They have passed both branches of Congress and are awaiting President Barack Obama's signature.

The resolutions to lobby on these bills passed during Tuesday's SGA meeting. Some concern was raised by senior Sen. Mallory Micetich, the contingency liaison, over whether students should be lobbying on issues of service rather than issues pertaining to the declining economy, such as tuition costs.

However, other senators urged for the bill to pass, which ultimately happened.

Junior Sen. Adam Hall, representing the College of Education, spoke of his time in the AmeriCorps program as meaningful.

"It was a very moving event," Hall said. "And, as you know, I'm a very static person."

The other bill that will be lobbied on concerns campus safety and was passed almost unanimously. Senators who encouraged the approval of the resolution cited the recent violence in off-campus housing as justification for its pertinence to the student body.

Senators haven't decided on what the fourth issue will be yet. It will be presented and voted on at next Tuesday's senate meeting.

The legislative action committee chose these bills based on their relevance to higher education.

"There weren't a lot of bills to choose from," said senior Sen. Caitlin Briska, committee chair. "But these ones we feel very passionate about, and even if there had been tons, we would have picked these anyway."

Committee member Justin Broughman, a senior, also said that they didn't want to choose hot-button issues, like the war in Iraq, which could have divided the senators.

### OTHER BUSINESS

A resolution was passed unanimously during Tuesday's meeting and will be sent to the administration recommending that the Madison Student Giving Campaign be allowed to present during graduation.

The organization usually gives the senior class a check during graduation symbolizing the money it raised. This is given to the university to be used as needed. However, this year, to shorten the ceremony, the giving campaign's two-minute presentation was removed from the program.

The resolution was co-written by sophomore Sen. Caitlin Natale, director of membership development for SGA and a member of Madison Student Giving Campaign.

Natale and other senators spoke on the importance of this presentation, which encourages future generations of students and graduating seniors to donate.

## If the Ring Fits

*Sophomore class designs JMU-themed ring for annual premiere Tuesday in Festival*



KATIE LYVERS/contributing photographer

The 2011 Ring Premiere committee presents its intricate design. "It's a way to celebrate the midpoint of our college careers," sophomore Brock Wallace said.

By KATIE THISDELL  
*The Breeze*

Virginia Stevens wasn't planning on buying a 2011 class ring.

But after winning the raffle prize for 50 percent off the price of a ring, she changed her mind.

"I had one on my finger, and I thought it looked so pretty, and then my number was called," Stevens said. "I like the variety, from big and bulky to small and classy. I have one picked out now."

Stevens was just one of more than 400 students at Tuesday's sophomore class ring premiere in the Festival Ballroom. Sophomores eagerly entered the balloon-filled room, hoping they would like the new design, win prizes and receive free T-shirts.

A committee of 12 sophomores designed the "traditional" ring in November, with help from Richard Niles, the artist from Balfour's headquarters in Texas. Balfour is the company that coordinates class rings and other graduation accessories.

"It could have been difficult with 12 of us," Stephanie Kissam said. "But we were a cohesive group. It was easy for us to identify parts of the campus that we wanted represented on the ring."

Both sides of the ring are collages of JMU-related symbols. One side of the ring features Duke Dog wearing a construction hat, since students have watched construction across campus for the past several years. The other side includes "Engine 81" to represent the train tracks and the interstate that run through JMU.

"I think they did as

good of job as they could," said Kala Doss while examining the display rings at the Balfour table. "I couldn't have done it better... The college ones are more basic than the ones in high school. It's catered to everyone and it's nice to have that unity."

Students design their own class rings at about 12 other universities in the country, according to Rand DuPriest, Balfour's regional territory manager of Virginia and Maryland.

Sophomore Bennett Resnik knew he wanted to purchase a ring even before seeing the design. He said he would choose the "biggest, most obnoxious one" because it would stand out.

"For me, it's a source of identity," Resnik said. "You're here for four years, and if you really involve yourself, it's a reminder of your time."

The rings cost anywhere from \$170 for celestium or stainless steel models, to \$469 for 10-karat gold.

"You can spend the same amount of money on a Tiffany's ring, but it doesn't have the same meaning," Resnik said.

Balfour typically sells 600 to 800 rings each year at JMU to students of all years, DuPriest said. However, no students purchased a ring at the event. Balfour will be selling rings in Warren Hall through April 10.

Throughout the evening, Madison Dance, the Breakdance Club and Exit 245 performed.

"It's a little much," sophomore Rachael Livesay said of the decorations, formal dress and entertainment. "But this is another thing that ties your class together."



KATIE LYVERS/contributing photographer

## Cultures To Collide On Stage

By ARIANA WITT  
*contributing writer*

Try adding the word "intarsia" into everyday conversation.

A term that describes a knitting and woodworking technique is also the title for this year's International Student Association Culture Show.

"It's putting a bunch of different things together as one," said ISA secretary Nishal Patel, as she described how intarsia symbolizes what the organization hopes to accomplish.

The free show will be held in Memorial Hall on Saturday at 7 p.m.

By collaborating with other groups, such as the African Student Organization and the Chinese Student Association, Patel believes ISA helps promote diversity on campus.

While the association does have international student members, many are American, including junior Shannon Thornhill.

"You don't have to be international, but you have to have a want or desire to learn about other cultures," said Patel, a junior biology major.

For Thornhill, participating in ISA has made a difference.

"It's really helped me out at JMU because I've learned a lot more about

...you have to have a want or desire to learn about other cultures.

— NISHAL PATEL  
ISA secretary

diversity," Thornhill said. "JMU is a lot more diverse than where I come from."

Thornhill began attending ISA meetings and events her freshman year when friends invited her.

Now the historian for ISA, Thornhill has helped plan many of the events that the student-run organization participates in, including Saturday's culture show that according to ISA vice president Pratik Banjade, cost about \$3,000.

Though Thornhill won't be performing, she helped organize various fundraisers at henna tattoo booths on campus and restaurants in Harrisonburg to help cover the culture show's expenses.

Patel will take part for the third time in an Indian dance with a group of five women and five men. They will dance to Bollywood, a mixture of Indian music mixed with American music.

"We try to bring in the American music because the audience will know it," Patel said.

According to Patel, the assortment

See **ISA**, page 5

## Religion: Open for Discussion

By MALISSA WATTERSON  
*contributing writer*

How do you feel about a religion course as a requirement before you can graduate from JMU?

This was one of the many questions raised during Tuesday night's spirituality dialogue in Taylor Hall.

Spirituality dialogues are open discussions led by a faculty member where students express their personal views and ideas on religion and spirituality. They are sponsored by Student Affairs and run by Greg Meyer, the assistant director for civic learning in Judicial Affairs.

Students split into two groups for the discussions. Tracy Lanier, assistant director for the Center for Multicultural Student Services, led one group. At first the students were hesitant to speak, but they quickly warmed up and began sharing their personal views and ideas on religion and spirituality.

Frank Viscomi, a senior mechanical engineer for Facilities Management, led the second group.

He hoped students would recognize that "there's more to survival in this world than just knowing the world."

Many students discussed how being away at college from their families and communities allows them to become

their own person and develop their own views.

In response to how they felt about having a religion course as a requirement before graduating, the majority of the students felt that it should be implemented because it would make them more aware of other ideas and more tolerant of different people.

Freshman Kelly Scheidler attended to receive a wellness passport for class, but she especially liked the peaceful environment and said she would recommend this event to students not in the personal wellness class.

See **DIALOGUES**, page 4



EVAN MCGREW/The Breeze

Katie Lidard (center) and Logan Van Meter (right) listen to Hasmik Mkrtchyan discuss religion in Taylor Hall. This was the 14th of 16 spirituality dialogues scheduled this year.



## DEBATE: Candidates Highlight Their Strengths

**Debate**, from front to make a difference than those on other campuses. Scott is a strong advocate of getting information out to the students on what their representatives are doing for them, whether it is through blogs, *The Breeze* or e-mails.

As for why he thinks he's the one for the job, Scott said, "This position needs to be expanded upon. I can make it go leaps and bounds."

Smolkin said he plans to "bridge the gap between the school administration and students across campus."

The candidates of the three uncontested positions spoke of their plans and goals but didn't elaborate on their platform points found on the SGA Web site.

Sophomore Brock Wallace, the candidate for vice president of Student Affairs, spoke about his ability to cover everything from class council issues to building school spirit, such as creating a Quadfest for JMU and allowing guest punches for visitors.

"It's more about student issues than politics," Wallace said.

Junior Rob Cellucci, the candidate for student representative to the Board of Visitors, promised to devote his time to bringing student needs to the board meetings, as well as making the campus more involved.

"While searching for signatures, a lot of people didn't know what the board did. I want to make it more transparent," he said. "I have no fear in voicing my opinion."

Junior Candace Avalos, the candidate for president, is running on the platform of having "Write Out Wednesdays."

"This year I've noticed that it's easiest to get student opinion if you let them do it on their own without any pressure," Avalos said. To combat this, she plans to have a flipchart available on the first Wednesday of every month in a different location on campus, which will then be brought to the SGA to meet their concerns.

Rosie Grant contributed to this report.

## DIALOGUES: For Many, Religion Easier to Discuss Outside of Class

**Dialogues**, from page 3

It "gives a better idea of the people on campus and a chance to talk about what you want to talk about," Scheidler said.

According to Meyer, the Spirituality Dialogues that take place now evolved from similar dialogues put on by Greg Czyszczon, a former staff member of Residence Life. Czyszczon brought student affairs professionals together and had conversations about spirituality and what it meant to them.

What spurred the decision to make spirituality dialogues a discussion geared more toward students was the discovery of the Spirituality and Higher Education study conducted by Alexander Astin of the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. Astin's study gave statistics of college students from all over the country and their high level of interest in having conversations with their peers about spirituality.

"People are a little afraid to bring up religion in class," said Meyer, explaining why Student Affairs wanted to bring students the opportunity to discuss spirituality.

In Spring 2006, Student Affairs began these student-focused dialogues and the turnout for that year ranged from three students to 30 students. Since then, attendance has risen. According to Meyer, 140 students attended a single dialogue last semester. Although, Meyer and other facilitators realize that most students are coming for the passports.

Meyer explained Student Affairs tries to reach those students not only in the personal wellness class, but by advertising in residence halls. If it doesn't have the time and energy to advertise, it is still able to receive a good turnout from students needing a wellness passport.

On Tuesday night, more chairs had to be set up in order to

accommodate 24 students, twice the expected turnout.

Meyer and all of the facilitators emphasized dialogue over debate because they don't want the dialogues to be aimed toward converting someone or proving that one view is superior to another.

Alex Adjei, coordinator for Off Campus Life, has been a facilitator since 2006.

He hopes that students at these dialogues "will be enriched by other stories and share their own story."

The next spirituality dialogue is on Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Eagle Hall. The last, and 16th of the year, will be on April 8 at 6:30 p.m. in Taylor 306.

■ **Should religion be a required course? Comment on this story at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org) and tell us what you think.**



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# SENIORS: Class Options Could be Expanded With Proposal

**Seniors**, from front especially help students who have completed all courses in their major. When signing up for classes this year, he had a hard time finding ones that didn't require students to be a certain major.

Senior psychology major Meredith Halverson faced a similar situation while struggling to find interesting electives to fill her spring semester.

"This semester there was a lot I wanted to take and it'd be interesting, but when I went to sign up you had to have taken this [class]," Halverson said. "And there were a lot of classes I wasn't able to take."

"The proposal will probably be reevaluated in the fall, according to Sen. Val Larsen, associate professor of marketing, but Sen. Scott Gallagher, a management professor, said the faculty senate doesn't have any power to make changes. He said decision-making power mainly resides with the JMU Board of Visitors.

Faculty senate advises the administration on the academic mission of the university," Gallagher said. "The question is then, what do we think is good advice?"

Some professors feel that there are classes taught where students strongly contribute

to the learning environment or group work, and if one student is less prepared it could hinder the work of the others.

"It's not just a question of whether [the student] would do OK in the class, but what impact they're going to have on other kids in the class," said Sen. Arch Harris, professor of computer science.

Sen. Marjorie Scheikl, a nursing professor, agreed and said that in her department, a senior-level class is expected to have the fundamentals of the subject since each course builds upon the one before it. Therefore, having a student not up to speed may be difficult for other students in the class.

Accounting is another field where a curriculum is put in place and pre-requisites are there for a reason, according to Sen. David Fordham, who feels that "overriding that would diminish the value of education, not enhance it."

Harris and Fordham feel the professor should ultimately decide if a student is prepared for a course or not. If a student can prove he or she has enough previous experience or knowledge to handle the class, then both would have no objection to allowing him or her to enroll.

Ivory feels departments are "overestimating" the problems this would cause in class and also the number of students who would take advantage of it.

However, Ivory and Larsen agree students may have to be prepared to do some extra work if they want to take a class without having the basic knowledge of the subject.

"People can do well in courses outside their field, if they're a good student and a motivated student," said Larsen, who mostly favors the proposal, but understands the opposition from certain majors.

Junior Matt Bryant, a marketing major, thinks that despite the question of being prepared or not, it would be unfair to students in the class who have done all the previous work for it and then someone else can just sign up on a whim.

However, some objections did arise that made even strong advocates of the plan reconsider.

Scheikl made the point that it would be a safety issue to allow students to enroll in certain nursing courses where they would be interacting with patients.

"I think my point was well received even to those for the proposal," Scheikl said.

"I think they realized they forgot to take into account the differences in our departments."

She said that the students in the program are liable under the faculty member's license and not having the proper skills would be dangerous.

"I must admit that's a powerful argument," Ivory said. "No doubt we could somehow accommodate those rules."

Scheikl does feel the idea could benefit certain departments, especially in liberal arts, but that making it a university-wide rule would not be favorable. Fordham agrees and supports students taking classes outside their field if they have the previous experience to prove they can handle it.

Larsen suggests a good compromise would be to form a list of courses seniors are allowed to take, even if it's not all of them. He sees this option as a good opportunity for students to take a course that may better prepare them for a future job.

"I don't see any downside for [seniors]," Larsen said. "All it does is expand their options."

*Tim Chapman and Katie Thisdell contributed to this report.*

# GOURMET: So Far, Chef's Table Success

**Gourmet**, from front area — visible to all walking by — and then serves each meal on Asian-inspired dishes.

Sophomore Kelly Gatewood, a modern foreign languages major, tried out the Chef's Table meal last week for lunch.

First course: a Greek salad with feta cheese, cucumbers, tomatoes and olives, topped off by a mint-tarragon vinaigrette. "The vinaigrette was perfect," Gatewood said. "It is different from the regular salads, a good different."

Second course: grilled salmon, parmesan risotto and herb-mixed vegetables with lemon butter cream sauce.

"The salmon was spectacular," said Gatewood, a Virginia Beach native who enjoys top-of-the-line seafood regularly. "It was grilled to perfection with a very crisp outside, with a juicy, tender inside, and the lemon sauce complements it well."

At a lunch date with Gatewood, sophomore Jacob Smith stole a piece, and he agreed.

"The salmon is great," Smith said. "People usually comment on D-Hall's food as quantity over quality, but this is delicious."

The wait time between courses is about 10 minutes and according to Gatewood, the service was great.

"They even had another plate on top of my plate so that my food wouldn't get cold while they waited for me to get my second course," Gatewood said.

Third course: Chocolate pecan pie with whipped cream, presented with chocolate drizzled around the dessert.

"It was the perfect blend of chocolate and pecans, and I would only improve it by warming it," Gatewood said.

The new Chef's Table option is a success so far, according to Stephanie Hoshower, director of Dining Services. In its first seven days, 222 meals had been served, with many repeat customers.

This program also enables students to spend dining dollars that they might not otherwise spend, explained Hoshower. However, not all students said that they would buy it often.

"It is not something that I would do on a regular basis because of the extra six or so dollars," Gatewood said.

There are also new, bigger cups — four ounces larger — according to Angela Ritchie, the marketing director of Dining Services.

"Dining Services is always looking for ways to improve our student dining program and increase the quality and value of the program," Hoshower said. "We recently implemented some changes to help us increase customer service, enhance our eco-friendly practices and give students more variety and better values."

Sophomore Emily Correa, a media arts and design major, found it strange that D-Hall would be adding these novelties in the current economic crisis.

"I don't think D-Hall needs to be mak-

ing any more pricey changes," Correa said. "D-Hall doesn't seem to be taking extra precautions in the face of our economic crisis."

As far as the new, larger cups that many D-Hallers are filling, Hoshower claims that this addition was simply a maintenance issue that is accounted for in their annual budget. She added that the new cups are more environmentally friendly because students do not have to get several cups, which cuts back on the water and electricity needed to wash them.

Sophomore Michelle Risse appreciates the new cups.

"They are cleaner and not dingy," said Risse, an English major. "It makes me feel better about the contents in my cup, because I am not as worried about all the old plastic contaminants."

While the Chef's Table seems to be a real hit thus far, Hoshower said no other changes were in store for D-Hall.

"We are in some challenging economic times and while the price of food is at an all-time high, we continue to enhance the JMU dining program through win-win programs," Hoshower said. "This commitment to the dining program has earned us a top-five ranking on the Princeton Review's list of best dining programs for the past two years."

■ Are you pleased with D-Hall's improvements? Visit [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org) to comment on this story.

# ISA: Show to Include Dance, Martial Arts

**ISA**, from page 3 of dance steps is a blend of the dance members' backgrounds that vary from Indian to Pakistani. They include both traditional moves and modern twists, which have proved to be a fun challenge for the dancers to teach one another.

In addition to Patel's group, there will be African and Chinese dancers, as well as a performance by the Mosaic dance group.

According to Banjade, there will be music of the 18th and 19th centuries, rapping and a showcase of Kempo, a martial art that includes sword-like weapons. He assures hesitant students that both JMU and the police department have approved the weapons.

Though Patel hopes for a good turnout, she knows that another popular event, the Circles breakdance competition, may detract students from the show. Banjade said that there were about 400 people in attendance last year and expects to see a similar turnout at Intarsia.

■ Friends with an international student? Tell us about them at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org).

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8			7		2			3
1				3				4
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## The Breeze Photo Contest Second Place Winner: Amanda Johns



### “No Breeze”

*This was a tough one. But after a few hours of thinking about it, I have to go with photo two: “No Breeze.” It just screams spring break.*

-Pete Marovich, photo editor, *Daily News-Record*



### next contest theme: “green”

- >One entry per person
- >Faculty and students are eligible
- >E-mail your entry to breezephoto@gmail.com
- >Students: include your name, year, major and title of photo
- >Faculty: include your name, position and title of photo

**Entries will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. on April 13**

Students will then have one week to vote on breezejmu.org for their favorite photo. For second round of judging, the three most popular photos will be sent to judges Pete Marovich from the *Daily News-Record*, photojournalism professor Tommy Thompson and former *Breeze* photo editor, Evan Dyson

Judging will be based on how well the photograph represents the theme

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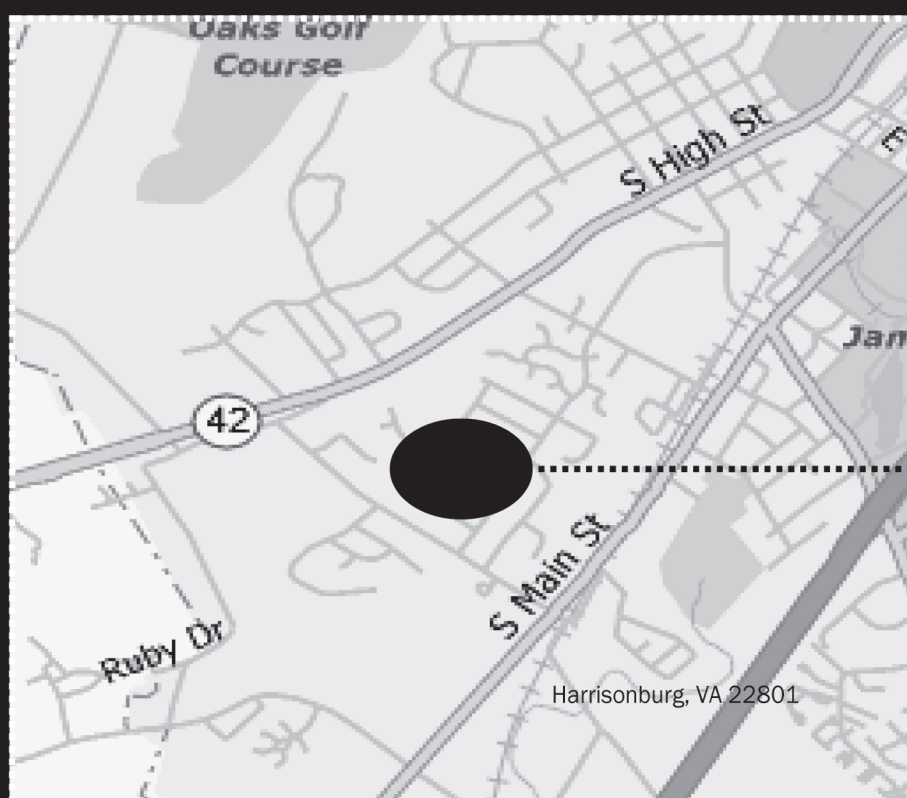
Congratulations to Managing Editor **ANNA YOUNG**, who won first place from the Society for Professional Journalists for this photo of Barack Obama at a September campaign rally in Fredericksburg.

### Other Breeze Winners

**Matt McGovern** | Second Place, sports writing     **Robert Boag** | Third Place, sports photography  
**Tim Chapman** | Third Place, sports columns



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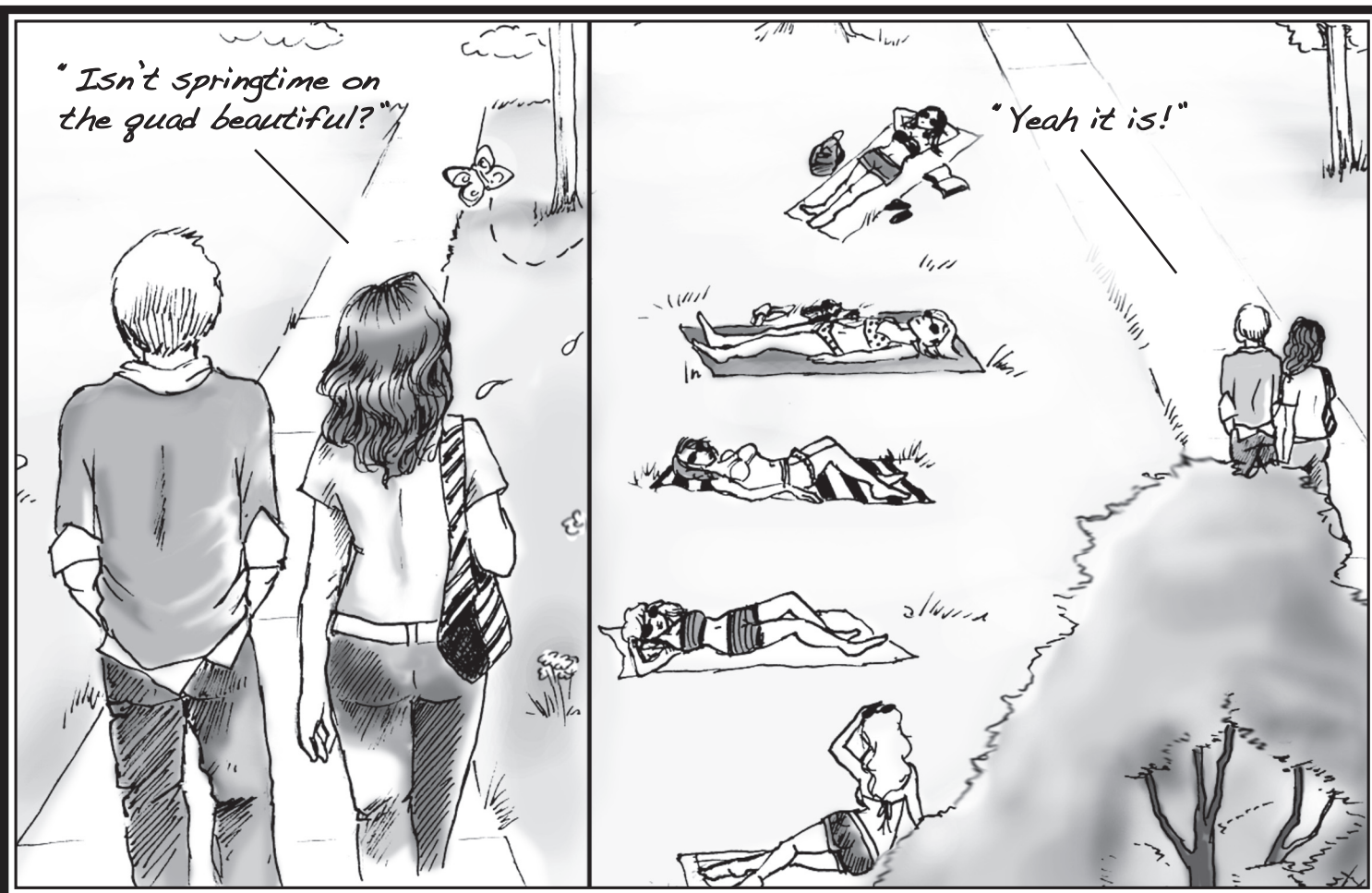
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LAUREN HAGY/The Breeze

**EDITORIAL**

## Campaign Reform

THREE UNCONTESTED POSITIONS out of four isn't exactly desirable. But this is what voters are left with during Wednesday and today's SGA and Student Representative to the BOV elections.

With less than one week to campaign and even less time for students to familiarize themselves with the platforms, something needs to change.

Before the elections commission received a ridiculously low number of candidate applications (five), committee chair Trishena Farley wrote a letter to the editor stating SGA hoped for at least 25 percent voter turnout this year. While that still might happen, a lower turnout certainly won't come as a surprise.

Despite *The Breeze's* introduction to the candidates in the March 26 issue and informing students of the candidate debates in that same issue and in Monday's issue, approximately 20 people showed up.

Granted, there is evidently a level of apathy toward student government and little knowledge of the Board of Visitors, but isn't the system SGA has in place of equal culpability?

Farley said that since she started at JMU in fall of 2004, candidates always had only one week to campaign. The reason:

making sure that academia doesn't become a second priority.

Fair enough, but we think that even just one more week of campaigning could lead to substantial improvements in voter turnout, the right candidates being elected and ultimately the student body having the strongest, most encompassing voice possible.

With one more week, write-in candidates would have more time to gain momentum and recognition. Candidates would be forced to make themselves more visible and would be open to questions from those outside the SGA.

Voters would no longer be slighted with the option of choosing only from candidates who run on recycled platforms containing the college equivalent of "putting a vending machine in the cafeteria." With more time for students to critically challenge both unrealistic and cliché platforms, it would also help a candidate realize that maybe he or she isn't the right person for the job.

Unfortunately, students have not been afforded this opportunity to become more involved in the system. Now that the election is over, SGA can make a necessary change, thus making the organization and its members a truer representation of the student body.

## DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth.

Submit Darts & Pats at [breezejmu.org](http://breezejmu.org)

A "make-a-new-playlist-if-you're-going-to-throw-parties-every-weekend" dart to the boys who live upstairs.

From the girl downstairs who is tired of hearing "Lollipop" through the ceiling all weekend long.

An "I-worship-the-ground-you-walk-on" pat to the student who used duct tape to doctor their parking pass from last year.

From a junior who wishes I had been that clever and saved \$192.

A "no-snaps-for-you" dart to all the sisters, biggies, littles, g-littles, and all their besties for speaking in one-syllable words too liberally.

From a rando girl who def doesn't think it's fresh or fab for your fam and friends to abbrev everything...obvi.

A "way-to-improvise" pat to the guy driving down Port playing the drums with drumsticks on his steering wheel.

From a girl walking by who didn't know whether to laugh at your antics or pray for the other people on the road.

A "not-so-fast" dart to all of the D-Hallers who think they need to make the "dash" downstairs.

From the downstairs johns that wish you'd wait to unload your eight grilled cheeses until you get back to the dorm.

A "jokes-on-me" dart to D-Hall for pulling buffalo mash from the lunch menu.

From someone who appreciates April Fools' jokes but this one went too far.

A "Here-Comes-the-Sun" pat to everyone who just needs to know "it's all right."

From someone who thinks there just aren't enough pats in the world some days.

**GADFLY**

## New Politics for Jack Bauer

'24's latest episode touches on a more current issue than torture

With just two lines of dialogue in this Monday's episode, FOX's primetime hit "24" has struck yet another political nerve — one that reveals an awareness of America's political reality. And, perhaps for the first time since the show

premiered, it's skewing more left than right.

As the main character — the soul, really, as few characters stay on from season to season — Jack Bauer has always shouldered the nation's political baggage in the wake of Sept. 11. The show's creators admit as much, saying "24" would be very different (likely focusing less on torture and terrorists) had we been spared that attack. Instead, it evolved alongside post-Sept. 11 America.

Conservatives delighted in finding some strange, cultural vindication for the War on Terror because

of Bauer's popularity. Indeed, the topic of torture has driven the show into popular and political culture, but it now seems to have been exhausted as the show's centerpiece.

What's keeping "24" relevant in the post-Bush era may not be the evolution of Jack Bauer. It seems to be the show's political evolution in edging beyond the tired question of torture. Jack's methods are still questioned, of course. This season, it's by means of Bauer's foil, a straight-laced FBI agent seduced by the dark side even as she suffers from the psychological effects of "doing what it takes."

This season opened with the infamous Counter Terrorist Unit dismantled and Jack under investigation for the torture and his ethically dubious, extralegal maneuvers. Paper-pushing Senate committees, rigid procedures and by-the-book FBI agents have replaced well-intentioned rogue agents and deference to executive agencies.

We have a new president, as well: Allison Taylor. She's the fictional counterpart to the histori-

cal first the real America received last November. Her partisanship is unrevealed, yet everything about her whispers "Democrat." Torture is wrong, she has unequivocally declared — and this time the government actually means it. The show has featured Democratic presidents before, but never one so "well-articulated and idealized," as executive producer Howard Gordon has said.

The politics have changed to meet the times; one needn't think too hard to see that the shift in political landscape bears resemblance to our own. In this new landscape, many seem to forgo scrutinizing the government's every action in favor of ranting about the "role of government."

Which brings me to those lines I mentioned:

"You're on private property. We're prepared to defend it if necessary."

And:  
"We're protecting our rights against a hostile government."

Conservatives, eat your heart out.

Until, that is, you realize a

character says those lines in defense of a business that plans to employ weapons of mass destruction against American citizens.

Yeah.  
"24"'s latest episode found President Taylor, the FBI and Bauer shocked to learn that a defense contractor had acquired a devastating bioweapon with the intent of using it on American soil. The business is named Starkwood, a private army undoubtedly modeled after our own happy band of mercenaries, Blackwater. (What a perfect time to make a corporate titan the show's main villain.) The lines above were proclaimed after the FBI came with a warrant to search Starkwood's compound.

FOX's breakaway hit has long demonstrated how political idealists can impede terror investigations by advocating for those pesky things called "rights" on a personal scale. This latest development, though, could delve into America's current doubt as to the government's role.

The unbridled horror of government encroachment is now on the

tip of every conservative tongue, at the heart of every conservative outcry and at the root of every conservative psyche. It's impossible not to know what I'm talking about by this point: the Obama administration's reaction to the financial crisis. I admit we're talking two different arenas of policy (government's use of force versus government's role in the markets), but essentially the battle is the same.

Bravo, "24." You just may have a fresh ideological conflict that eschews the last few years' obsession with national security and finds itself in step with the times.

Americans can once more watch their political fantasy play out in Jack Bauer's America, but it looks to be a different and timelier one: business versus government, literally and with military force on both sides.

As Starkwood's villainous CEO proclaims: "Now we're having some fun."

■ WHITTEN MAHER is a political science and media arts & design major and *The Breeze's* design editor.



WHITTEN MAHER

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The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns.

**LETTERS** must be no longer than 300 words.  
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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.

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## Outgoing Breeze staff members say their goodbyes

Breeze farewells are an annual tradition, in which outgoing staff members share their sentiments and reflections with the JMU community and the remaining and incoming Breeze staff.

As far as I know, it is unique that the two highest Breeze editors will stay for a second year in the same staff positions while we wave goodbye to two Breezers whom we hired and two we started out with when we first became Breezers.

It's unheard of that a remaining staff member writes some type of farewell column because of the very nature of the feature. However, I feel compelled to give a sincere bon voyage to a few of my closest friends and colleagues.

Ashton, Thursday nights have been the highlight of my week and they will never be the same for me for as long as I'm at JMU. But rest assured, Megan and I will make them live on long after you're gone. You were the sunshine of my Sundays and Wednesdays, and I'm glad Tim and I chose you, along with Erik, to lead the news section. I know it's been rough at times but you have never lost your spirit and I admire that.

Erik, you have done an excellent job, along with Ashton, to make the news section what it is today. Your

humor and sarcasm has always been welcomed in my eyes, and it made production days go by a little easier. Even though you're a history major, your passion for journalism has shone through all year and I appreciate what you've done for the newspaper.

Megan, from the time that we were newbies who didn't know each other, you and I have grown exponentially closer, and I'm so glad for that. We started out with adjoining desks and now it seems we're joined at the hip after two years of knowing each other! From selflessly being my transportation to holding my hand through my two tattoos, and from setting me straight and always being there for me to sucking me into Sporcle, we've become great friends even out of the office. It will be weird not seeing you in the office, even on non-Breeze days, but you will always be an honorary Breeze family member in my eyes!

Matt, even though I'm constantly on your case about your pages, I really admire your striving for perfection to make the sports section as journalistically and grammatically flawless as possible. You've really outshined previous sports editors and I only hope that the sports section can remain as awesome as it was this year. Even though we never had our proverbial date, I expect you to come back and visit me (and maybe your girlfriend, too) as often as you would like.

**Anna Young**  
managing editor



KELLY LONERGAN/The Breeze

## Top 10... No, Top 5

Near the end of a school year that saw JMU kick returner Scotty McGee reach the pinnacle of SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays, I only thought it fitting to write my last column in a countdown format.

The following is a list of my favorite pastimes as sports editor for *The Breeze*.

5. Transcribing press-conference interviews  
"God is impartial," JMU football coach Mickey Matthews assured everyone

after Rodney Landers' Hail Mary completion against Villanova, while pointing out that wacky plays have gone against JMU in the past, too. Sometimes you have to replay something to believe it was actually said.

4. Covering women's soccer and basketball

Yes, I passed this torch on to Wes Shaw when he became the assistant sports editor, but the programs that women's soccer coach Dave Lombardo and women's basketball coach Kenny Brooks have established are truly competitive at the highest national level.

3. Proofing pages  
PUH-ERR-OOF-ING PUH-AGES. It sounds just like that.

2. Late-night discussions at the office  
Often interrupted by *The Breeze* delivery in the early hours of the morning. This probably happened too much, but there were definitely some worthwhile conversations. (Including a memorable one about rhetoric).

1. Making road trips  
Without that trip to Duke, I never would have known that the prestigious university celebrated its season-opening win over JMU by setting off fireworks after the game — while playing the Star Wars theme song. Yeah, that happened. After all, it was Duke's first win in its last 10 games.

**ADDENDUM:** Being an editor at *The Breeze* brings a lot of responsibility, but if I could go back, I wouldn't give it up for all the experiences I had. Many students and faculty have helped along the way — you know who you are — and it's much appreciated. To the new staff: I look forward to hearing about the direction you take things.

**Matthew McGovern**  
sports editor

## Goodbye JMU

Well, my run as news editor is over, and now is the time to reflect on the last year of my life. This job has been fun, depressing, uplifting, challenging and a reason to drink if I ever needed one. Despite its stress, long hours and tediousness, it has been one of the most worthwhile experiences of my life.

I was fortunate to cover some big stories that had a tremendous impact on JMU. But as memorable as those stories were,

what I will remember most about *The Breeze* is the people I worked with.

I'll start with my unrequited bromance with Matt, when I really should have been bromancing Whitten. Then there is Wes, the annoying little brother I never wanted. Megan, how little we had in common yet somehow managed to get along. I enjoyed bonding with copy editors Amy and Colleen over booze. Then there is Brooke's great graphics, Adrienne joking on Wes, Anna's cartwheels through the office and Tim's vision for the paper. Last and certainly not least my girlfriend and fellow news editor Ashton who has made this a remarkably great year.

How do you say goodbye to a year of your life? Better yet, how do you say goodbye to four years of your life?

My entire childhood I couldn't wait to grow up and be an adult but now that time is here, and I can't help but want to go backward in time.

Unfortunately time is forcing me to leave JMU and before I leave for the wild blue yonder, I want to thank everyone at JMU who has made this the happiest place on Earth.

**Erik Landers**  
news editor

## Where Did the Time Go?

When you have spent the last year of your life working so hard for *The Breeze*, what do you say to sum it all up?

It was fun.  
It was an adventure.  
It was challenging.  
It was worth it.



Those are the ones that come to my mind. I lucked out that Tim "The Bossman" Chapman took a chance on me; otherwise, I would have missed out on one of the best experiences of my life and making some of the best friends of my life.

I mean let's go through the checklist. Traveled to Virginia Tech for the one-year anniversary? Check. Interviewed T-Pain on the Nappymobile? Check. Got to see President Barack Obama in person? Check. Not too shabby.

But how do I begin to say goodbye to the news section that is like my child? It is a hard thing to do.

Yes, people will have to drag me out as I grip my desk and plead to lay out one more page, but I think I can manage to leave with a little dignity.

As Ashley and Kaleigh spoke of falling in love with Matthew McGovern last year, I too had a love this year. While many of you are expecting me to say Wes (whom I myself love), and Tim is expecting me to say Tim, I actually met someone very special to me in the news section. But I'm not going to be mushy, cough, Erik.

I will miss making Whitten uncomfortable, arguing with Matt McGovern about the rift he let come between us, happies and crappies, Tequila Thursdays and hearing Tim yell my name every five seconds.

I will miss the late night PDFing after everyone is so fed up with life, Megan vs. Tim catfights, Anna drawing awkward turtles and my stealing Susan's candy and nicknaming Brad "Bradley" while he calls me — Sticky Fingers?

I look forward to whatever life-after-college brings me, but there will never be another staff or another paper that will mean as much to me as *The Breeze*.

I can't begin to thank all those people who critiqued my work for how much their advice has taught me.

I'm proud to have been a part of this paper and to be involved in something that students rely on for their information.

So to end, I will continue my favorite thing about staff meetings:

My happy is that I don't have to write a goodbye column ever again.

My crappy is that I am officially done at *The Breeze*.

So thanks readers, thanks writers and thanks staff!! I'll miss you guys!!

**Ashton Smith**  
news editor

## Thanks, It's Been Fun

The things I will miss about *The Breeze* probably outnumber the things I won't miss three-to-one. I will miss, above all, the people I worked with. They are amazing.

For the past two years I have been an editor at *The Breeze*, last year as the assistant arts and entertainment editor and this year as the life editor. I have spent more waking hours in the basement of Anthony-Seeger Hall than anywhere else. I have spent more time with my co-editors than my roommates. And I wouldn't have traded it for anything.

There are many things I want to say in this farewell column, many final words to those people staying at *The Breeze* next year, but instead I'll just say thank you to a few people.

First of all, to a beloved but perhaps under-represented member of *The Breeze* team, Susan Shifflett. For those of you who don't know her (and you really should meet her if you haven't) she's the bookkeeper. For those of us who do know her, she's a friend, a cheerer-upper, a keeper of Breeze memories, a candy provider and an essential presence at *The Breeze*. Susan, thanks for always being there to talk to, for answering every question I've ever had. I don't even mind that you like the Yankees. I'll miss you.

Second, to Mary Frances Czarsty and Evan Dyson, former editor-and-chief and managing editor, respectively, for taking a chance on me my freshman year. Being hired as a Breeze editor has definitely been a high point in my JMU career. It's given me opportunities I couldn't have gotten anywhere else and taught me things that are invaluable.

Lastly, and it might surprise some of you, to myself. I think I'm pretty underappreciated so I want to take this time to pat myself on the back. Thanks, Megan, for running your section without help for over half the school year. For always making deadline, for never missing a production day, for never missing a staff meeting, for going to SGA meetings, for truly caring about *The Breeze*.

So in conclusion:  
My happy is the memories I've made and the lessons I've learned these past two years. My crappy, for the last time, is Tim Chapman.

**Megan Williams**  
life editor

## The Wall that Heals

Ralph Sampson Park. April 2-5

### Schedule of Events

**April 2:** Wall opens to public 8am. Opening Ceremony 10am.

**April 2-5:** Wall is open to public. Free of charge. Open 24 hours a day

**April 6: CLEAN UP DAY!** Beginning 8am, disassemble Wall and tents. Wall leaves Harrisonburg for New Jersey.

Again, The Wall is open day and night for the four days it is at The Ralph Sampson Park.

[This is a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Wall in DC]  
Hosted by The Ladies Auxiliary Chimney Rock VFW  
Post 9660, Broadway  
For more information call: 540-820-2331

### Keefer Law Corner

#### Virginia's Intoxilyzer 5000 find Alcohol where none exists

A middle aged lady was arrested for DUI in July, 2008 in Harrisonburg, Virginia after a one car crash. She was taken to the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department and indirectly tested for alcohol in her blood by the Intoxilyzer 5000 situated there, SN 68-001998 ("SN 1998").

SN 1998's breath test stated this lady had a blood alcohol content of over .60 BAC, a lethal dose of alcohol. Yet she did not die.

Two hours later this same lady's actual blood was tested for alcohol. That blood test reported zero alcohol present in her blood.

The gadget found alcohol that did not exist -- something scientists refer to as a false positive. Without the July 2008 actual blood test we would not know that SN 1998 was "seeing" alcohol where none existed.

The Intoxilyzer 5000 is the breath alcohol tester still used in many parts of Virginia. This contraption claims to measure the alcohol in the subject's blood by measuring the alcohol in the subject's breath.

In 2005 Virginia state employees admitted in internal documents that these Intoxilyzer 5000s were "dated, unstable and unreliable". By 2008, SN 1998 was in terrible shape as were most of Virginia's breath testers. The manufacturer was no longer following this model and replacement parts were hard to find.

SN 1998 experienced overheating and unexplained electrical failures. SN 1998 employed substandard, untested parts including motors. By 2008, state employees claimed they did not know what motor was originally issued with this model.

SN 1998 was kept in service until late November, 2008 when it was replaced with Virginia's new breath alcohol tester, the EC/IR II. Virginia employees admit this new tester is no more accurate than the dated, unstable and unreliable SN 1998 model.

We can only wonder how many innocent people have been and will be wrongfully convicted by Virginia's "dated, unstable and unreliable" breath test contraptions. We can only wonder how many innocent people will be wrongfully convicted by the new breath testing contraption.

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## Now That Spring Break is Over . . .



DAN GORIN/The Breeze

The Silver Phoenix Indian Trading Post is just 23 miles north of campus. It offers a special insight into Native American culture and offers traditional merchandise.

### Trading Tradition and Culture

By JESS NOVAK  
The Breeze

Students traveling south to JMU on Interstate 81 have probably seen it at some point.

There is something intriguing about a giant teepee right off exit 269. It turns out there is more to this teepee than meets the eye.

Not only is it the site of a major pow-wow every year, featuring more than 200 dancers and more than 30 vendors, but the building behind it is open daily as a Native American Trading Post.

"This is an outlet for Native American

culture," owner Beth Armagost said. "Many people seem to think Native American culture is something that was. This is our way of showing that it is alive and well."

Armagost owns and runs the Trading Post with her husband, Jim Grey Hawk, a nationally known silversmith. Grey Hawk even has a silversmith station within the trading post, where customers can watch him work. Some of his jewelry is on display and for sale along with his custom-made knives; Grey Hawk makes only 10 of these valuable knives per year.

See TRADE, page 16

### Heard it Through the Grapevine

By RACHEL CHERYNSKI  
The Breeze

In the small, country town of Edinburg, about 30 minutes from JMU, lies the oldest winery in the Shenandoah Valley.

With a scenic drive up 81 North, the peaceful, winding roads ultimately approach the destination: the beautiful 26-acre Shenandoah Vineyards, featuring rolling hills covered in grape vines.

Owners Jim and Emma Randel opened this business in 1976.

And while the vineyards started off as a small-scale operation, there are now 11 types of grapes grown there, such as Riesling, Vidal and Villard Blanc.

Free daily tours are offered at the

vineyard at the start of the hour from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and demonstrate the process of how wine gets from the grape to the glass.

After the tour, visitors are welcomed inside the barn to sample a variety of wines. With furnished counters and classy tables set up for wine and cheese pairings, it hardly resembles a typical barn used for housing farm animals.

Once guests settle inside, they are given a sheet of paper with 13 wines, from strong reds and whites to sweet blush and dessert wines. Each person is then prompted to take notes on their favorite wines in order to purchase bottles at the end of the tasting if they

See WINE, page 16



DAN GORIN/The Breeze

At the Shenandoah Vineyards, guests can sample up to 13 types of wines.

### Gently Down a Secluded Stream, Life is but a Dream

By RACHEL DOZIER  
The Breeze

As the weather gets warmer, what could be better than standing in the middle of a private spot, enjoying the delights of nature?

At Smith Creek, about 30 minutes from JMU, there is a one-mile stretch of water known as Susie Q Farm. Fishermen

delight in this secret spot mostly because of its solitude from the rest of the world. Only four rods are allowed on this stretch of the creek per day.

Susie Q Farm is only one of four private waters in the area.

To fish on this property, fishermen must visit the Mossy Creek Fly Fishing Store, operated by Brian and Colby Trow, on East Market Street.

Owner, founder, and 2002 JMU grad, Colby Trow, said, "I've been fishing since I was a kid. When I graduated from JMU we had the opportunity to start our own business, and we took advantage of that."

Trow takes more than 200 trips per year all around the area. "April, May, and June are the best time of the year to fish," Trow said. "These months have the most water and the fish are the most active due

to increased water temperatures."

The store provides fishing equipment, literary guides, guide services and wade trips for local water.

Some of the local waters included in these wade trips are spring creeks or big freestone streams, private water, or float trips on the James River or Shenandoah

See FISHING, page 17

### Student Peak

What is your pick-me-up trick to get you going?

— RACHEL CHERYNSKI



"I drink coffee... probably three cups a day. I haven't had any today yet, so I'm struggling."  
— Amanda Kelland, junior, nursing



"I go for a run at Purcell Park for a pick-me-up. It's nice to get away from campus."  
— Betsy Morser, sophomore, IDLS



"I would say finding students and feeding off their energy."  
— Tim Howley, Health Center staff



"When you go outside and hear the birds chirping and see the sun... that really gets me going."  
— Paul Jones, freshman, SMAD

## MACRoCk Hits the 'Burg

By CORY KUKLICK  
contributing writer

It's that time of the year again: spring is in the air, students are anticipating summer, and over 80 bands are about to converge in Harrisonburg. This weekend, MACRoCk will be upon us.

MACRoCk has been a Harrisonburg staple since its inception in 1996. Still seemingly unknown to many students, but a thing of legends for those that have experienced it throughout the years.

The event brings together bands, record labels, guest speakers and music enthusiasts from across the country, acting as a vessel for networking and showcasing talent.

The bands playing include JMU students are Wild Animal Party, The Great Migrators, Nervous Habits and Gifts from Enola. Bands which JMU alumni are American Tourist, Little Ocean Boy, Savage Land and the Super Vacations.



courtesy of MATTHEW WORDEN

Last year, some MACRoCk concerts were held at JMU venues, but this year the events are held entirely at off-campus venues.

"This event provides an enriching experience that one can derive knowledge and fun from at the same time," said Harper Holsinger, one of the head coordinators for MACRoCk. "You will not be disappointed."

Holsinger is one of nine unpaid volunteers who have taken on the

task of coordinating an event featuring bands that will play in various downtown venues such as Clementine Café, the Blue Nile and the Artful Dodger, some of which are hosting the event for the first time.

See ROCK, page 17

## Russian Ballet Performs 'Cinderella'

By ZACH WEAVER  
contributing writer

Ballerinas and fine arts enthusiasts of all ages flocked to Wilson Hall on Tuesday evening to enjoy the Russian National Ballet Theatre's production of "Cinderella."

"It's great to see all of the age groups here," said Laura Mack, a '08 and former dance minor. "It shows that classical ballet is still appreciated."

The three-act ballet featured great chemistry between Cinderella, played by Marianna Chemalina, and the Prince, played by Ruslan Mukhambetkaliev.

There was also plenty of humor to keep the audience involved. A stepmother's attempt to remove the stepmother's toes with hedge clippers (to pare her feet to slipper size) drew heavy laughs from the crowds.

The show ended with an extended standing ovation.

The visit presented an oppor-

tunity for JMU dance students to observe professional technique live. JMU ballet instructor Alexi Sherrill required her students to attend and write a response to the performance.

"Russia's companies are known for their artistry, which is an element difficult to articulate in a class format," Sherrill said. "My hope is that my students will come to class inspired and willing to work harder than ever."

Founded in the late 1980s, the Russian National Ballet Theatre is a respected institution that is pursued by some of Russia's brightest young dancers.

"The Russian National Ballet is certainly in the ranks of the elite classic international ballet institutions," said Jerry Weaver an executive assistant in the JMU's College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Last Tuesday, this group of professional performers left their impact on JMU's dancing community.

What's happenin' around the 'Burg

TODAY — SATURDAY:  
Grafton-Stovall Movies

WHAT AND WHEN: "Bedtime Stories" at 7 p.m. and "Notorious" at 9:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Grafton-Stovall Theatre  
PRICE: \$2.50, \$3 with popcorn

FRIDAY:  
Casino Royale Casino Night

WHAT: Habitat for Humanity will host a casino night to benefit Habitat International  
WHERE: Transitions  
WHEN: 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
PRICE: FREE

SATURDAY:  
Madison Motorshow

WHAT: Motorshow hosted by Madison Motorsports  
WHERE: C4 Parking Lot  
WHEN: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
PRICE: FREE



## THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS CONGRATULATES ITS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FOR 2009

**Highest Academic Achievement Award**  
Lok-Kun L. Tsui, Physics Major

**Dean's Outstanding Senior Recognition Award**

**Biology Department**  
Wade Hampton Dunham

**Chemistry Department**  
Kristina M. Hamill

**Geology & Environmental Science Department**  
Nicholas V. Silvis

**Mathematics & Statistics Department**  
Chloe C. Byler

**Physics Department**  
Lok-Kun L. Tsui

**Biology Department**

**Tri-Beta Outstanding Junior Award**  
Katherine Elizabeth Cox

**Margaret A. Gordon Memorial Scholarship**  
Charles Lewis Cuccherini William Russell Cannon  
Bridget Kathleen Lins Rebecca Erin Walmsley  
Alexa Nicole Romasco Wade Hampton Dunham

**Peter T. Nielsen Award for Botanical Studies**  
Brinton Evan Domangue

**Norlyn L. Bodkin Scholarship for Arboretum  
And Botanical Field Studies**  
Karl Victor Gorzelnik

**Botanical Society of America "Young Botanist  
Award" nominations**  
Brinton Evan Domangue Karl Victor Gorzelnik

**Excellence in Biology or Biotechnology**  
Wade Hampton Dunham David John Vieweger  
Rebecca Erin Walmsley Jeffrey David Browning  
Thomas James Taetzsch William Russell Cannon

**Excellence in Teaching**  
Carrie Elizabeth Leonard

**Excellence in Service**  
Karl Victor Gorzelnik

**Mathematics and Statistics Department**

**IDLS Mathematics Award**  
Katie Schwizer

**Statistics Major Award**  
Lauren Heather Lindros

**Statistics Minor Award**  
Michael William Livesey, Jr.  
Alexa Nicole Romasco

**Future Mathematics Teacher Award**  
Molly McHarg Leslie Hindman

**Mathematics & Statistics Research Award**  
Kristin McNamara

Lianne Loizou  
Jan Herbert-Hewell

**METRON Applied Mathematics Award**  
Deena Hannoun Sherry Vaughan

**Chemistry and Biochemistry Department**

**R. D. Cool Award**  
Christian Schwantes  
**J. W. Chappell Scholarship**

Megan Bumann  
**D. S. Amenta Award**

Nicole Ando  
**F. A. Palocsay Award in Undergraduate Research**

Robert East  
**Service Award**

Tracy Nichols  
**J. W. Chappell Award**

Nicholas Dugan  
**Hypercube Scholar**

Jeremy Harris  
**American Institute of Chemists Award**

Jennifer Bon  
**Degesch America Award**

Stephanie Hall  
**ACS-Merck Award**

Kristina Hamill  
**Pfizer Award**

Michael Salim  
**Geology and Environmental Science Department**

**W.T. Harnsberger Scholarship**  
Seldon Walker

**Alison MacDonald Doherty Research Scholarship**  
Christopher Sutherland (Fall)  
Kevin Cabaniss (Spring)

**Catherine King-Frazier Scholarship**  
Megan Hensley

**Philip R. Cosminsky Award**  
Andrew Hawkins

**W. A. Tarr Award**  
Andrew Hawkins

**W. Cullen Sherwood Outstanding Senior Award**  
Andrew Hawkins

**Physics and Astronomy Department**  
**Outstanding Senior Physics Major**

Lok-Kun L. Tsui  
**Outstanding Junior Physics Major**

Jamey R. Szalay  
**Physics Department Research Award**

Lok-Kun L. Tsui  
**Physics Department Teaching Award**

Patrick G. Bookjans  
Gregory S. Maust

**Alumni/Faculty Scholarship**  
Christopher G. Willis  
Erik C. van der Goetz

**Henry W. Leap Scholarship**  
Jamey R. Szalay

**Dr. Raymond A. and Elizabeth A. Serway Physics  
Scholarship**

William R. Henderson  
Alexander B. Nycum

Curtis C. White  
**Physics Undergraduate Research Symposium Award**

1<sup>st</sup> place - Lok-Kun L. Tsui  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Gregory S. Maust  
3<sup>rd</sup> place - Patrick I. McCauley

## Houseplant Repotting Event

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EVAN MCGREW/The Breeze

Senior Nick Kale shoots for JMU men's recurve team. The team won the past two national championships. Kale placed eighth last year.

## Team of Talent Takes Aim

By CASEY CAVANAGH  
contributing writer

From time to time, JMU clubs, teams and organizations are graced with the presence of a true legend. For the JMU archery team, Adam Wheatcroft was one.

In the 2002-2003 season, he was a junior at JMU and the heart and driving force behind the JMU archery team. By the end of that season, Wheatcroft won two national archery championship titles and held 11 national records in his three years competing at the collegiate level.

In May of that same year, he was unexpectedly diagnosed with brain cancer, roughly one week after he won his second national archery championship title.

After battling cancer and treatment for about five months, he died on October 28,

2003, at the age of 21.

"A real star in the archery community was lost that day," JMU head archery coach Bob Ryder said, "He was the only guy I ever saw that retired from world competition undefeated."

Wheatcroft won't soon be forgotten in the JMU community. The Adam Wheatcroft Memorial Shoot, previously known as the JMU Invitational that started in 1992, has been held in his name since the 2003-2004 season.

"This tournament represents our remembrance of one of the greatest archers we've ever had at JMU," Ryder said. "Adam is still the most valuable member of this team even though he passed away. This tournament is our way of recognizing his gift to JMU as a competitor."

The two-day tournament will be held this weekend at Hillside field. There are five teams

set to attend, including Penn College, a top competitor. The archery team competes at the club level since the varsity program was cut in the fall of 2006 as part of JMU's attempt to be Title IX compliant.

The lack of two senior top performers, Jacob Wukie and Brittany Lorenti, will be troublesome for the young team. Both Wukie and Lorenti will be competing in the Dominican Republic at the World Cup.

Wukie placed fourth in last year's indoor nationals, placing behind JMU senior teammate Nick Kale. Wukie was also an Olympic alternate at last year's Beijing Games. Lorenti is the defending National Champion in women's compound.

"We're in a rebuilding year. We just graduated our No. 1 recruiting class of

See **WHEATCROFT**, page 15

## Ratner To Transfer



AMY GWALTNEY/The Breeze

Sophomore Heiden Ratner had 29 steals in the 07-08 season.

By DAN LOBDELL  
The Breeze

After diminished playing time under a new coach, sophomore guard Heiden Ratner plans to transfer.

Ratner, who averaged 23.4 minutes per game as a freshman, averaged only 9.6 minutes per game this season under coach Matt Brady.

The decision was made after a meeting with Brady. Ratner could not see himself contributing next season as he had as a freshman.

"Heiden and I agreed that his best opportunity to be a major contributor in terms of minutes and impact wouldn't necessarily be at JMU," Brady said. "So he is gonna pursue other opportunities and we're helping him do that. We wish him nothing but the best as he moves forward with his next opportunity."

Ratner is unsure yet as to where he will transfer, but he hopes to continue to play at the Division I level.

The transfer frees up a fourth scholarship for Madison in the 2009-10 season. April 15 opens the late signing period.

"I have a passion for the game and I want to be out there," Ratner said. "I'm just trying to find the best possible situation where I can go in and have a good opportunity to be out there on the court and have an impact on the game."

## Versatility Plays Key Role

Landers doesn't run the 40-yard dash due to ankle rehab

By AMY GWALTNEY  
The Breeze

While the Dukes work to find a replacement quarterback at spring practice, Rodney Landers worked to show his talent at Pro Day on Tuesday.

An ankle injury, from in the Football Championship Subdivision semifinal game against Montana forced him to sit out at JMU's first Pro Day on March 18, so the spotlight focused on him, while other players repeated the workouts.

"Had I done the first one, I'm not sure if my numbers would have been as good as they were today," Landers said. "But that's a chance I had to take."

Some of his teammates who participated earlier in the month completed the workout again, including cornerback Evan McColough, linebacker Marcus Haywood

and defensive end J.D. Skolnitsky.

As the Colonial Athletic Association's leading rusher in 2008, averaging 126.4 yards per game, Landers serves as Madison's top professional prospect.

Landers managed 12 reps at 225 pounds on bench and reached 36 inches for the vertical jump. He was timed at 4.17 seconds for the shuttle and 7.07 seconds for the three-cone.

"You can always get better and the moment you start feelin' you did your best you start goin' backwards, still some things I need to work," Landers said on his evaluation of his performance. "I expect perfection, I expect the best."

And, the best is all he allowed himself to deliver. His 4.57 second 40-yard dash time from the beginning of the 2008 season will be given to scouts after he chose to not participate in the 40 due to his ankle injury. Even though he had

been 100 percent cleared to run in early March, he felt his performance after rehab may affect his stock.

"It's just one test," said David Sullivan, Landers' agent. "If it's not gonna be his best today based on recovering from the ankle, then that's the only decision he could have made."

The senior's all-purpose ability on the field may be his biggest advantage. Landers did position drills at running back, defensive back and wide receiver.

"He worked out doin' a lot of different things," Sullivan said. "That sorta tells you that what his real key is here is being versatile... that's what we're focused on."

Closer to the draft, Landers' professional career will have a clearer view, but with no idea regarding his placement, he said he would take any opportunity presented to him. But, ideally, he'd like



AMY GWALTNEY/The Breeze

Rodney Landers does the shuttle drill at Pro Day on Tuesday. He hopes to be drafted by the NFL in the April 25 and 26 event in New York City.

to be placed somewhere among the east coast where most of his family lives.

Scouts from the Philadelphia Eagles, New England Patriots, and Indianapolis Colts were testing for the day, and though they don't speak to players about their performance, a few "good jobs" and head nods served as reassurance for Landers.

"We like what's going on so far, teams are definitely interested," Sullivan said. "Teams know who Rod-

ney is and they know all about him and they know what he can do."

According to nfldraftscout.com, Landers is ranked 40th out of 116 collegiate quarterbacks entered into the 2009 NFL Draft.

"Basically I'm just here to show them how athletic I am," Landers said. "Obviously I probably won't get a look at quarterback at the next level, but something I'm prepared to do is just go out there and play football. It's the game I love."

## Open Season for Quarterbacks

By DAN LOBDELL  
The Breeze

While Punxsutawney Phil may have predicted six more weeks of winter, spring came early for JMU football. The Dukes started practice on Tuesday, two days earlier than expected.

Coach Mickey Matthews has two major goals: choosing a new quarterback and retooling a defense that lost its defensive coordinator. Both challenges will be tested in the season opener against Football Bowl Subdivision opponent Maryland on Sept. 12.

"We just need to improve our defense," Matthews said. "Certainly we're working very hard in getting to where we play better defense and anytime you lose your starting quarterback... We have a lot of work cut out for us."

No matter whom Matthews chooses as his starting quarter-

back for next season, they will have big shoes to fill. Replacing an icon like Rodney Landers will not be an easy task, but Matthews believes he has two capable options in rising junior Drew Dudzik and redshirt freshman Justin Thorpe.

"It's a luxury," Matthews said. "There's not a coach in America who wouldn't enjoy the situation we're in right now."

"They both have better straightaway speed than Rodney and can also throw the ball. That's very hard to find guys like that, and that's what we strive for. That's something that our coaches have done a great job recruiting to have two guys that have the physical characteristics these two guys do."

Performing on the biggest stage of his career as Landers' backup, Dudzik directed JMU's offense to 17 second-half points in a 35-27 loss to Montana in the Football Championship Subdivision semifinals. He went 6-of-

13 for 70 yards and ran for another 88 yards and two scores in the televised game on ESPN2.

His most memorable play was a 2-point conversion in which he was sent flying head-

“We’re gonna be one of the best teams in the country.”

— DREW DUDZIK  
JMU junior quarterback

over-heels and reached the ball over the goal line. A snapshot of the play made the Dec. 22 issue of Sports Illustrated.

Thorpe, who ran the scout

team offense in the fall, was a two-star Rivals.com athlete at Varina High School in Richmond in 2008. He has never played on national television but he believes that he can lead the Dukes offense next season.

"Being on the scout team allowed me to showcase all of my talents," Thorpe said. "Everybody knows I can run, but it also allowed me to show that I can drop back and throw. I'm a balanced quarterback; I think I'm just versatile."

The biggest spring day for the team will be its annual spring game on April 25.

The Dukes finished 12-2 last season after being ranked No. 1 in the FCS coaches' poll for 10 consecutive weeks. The team does not feel there will be much of a drop off after last season, despite all the green talent that will be on the field next season.

Dudzik said: "We're gonna be one of the best teams in the country."



ROBERT BOAG/The Breeze

Drew Dudzik (left) and Justin Thorpe shown doing footwork drills Tuesday, are a part of Mickey Matthews' 'reloading' plan in 2009.

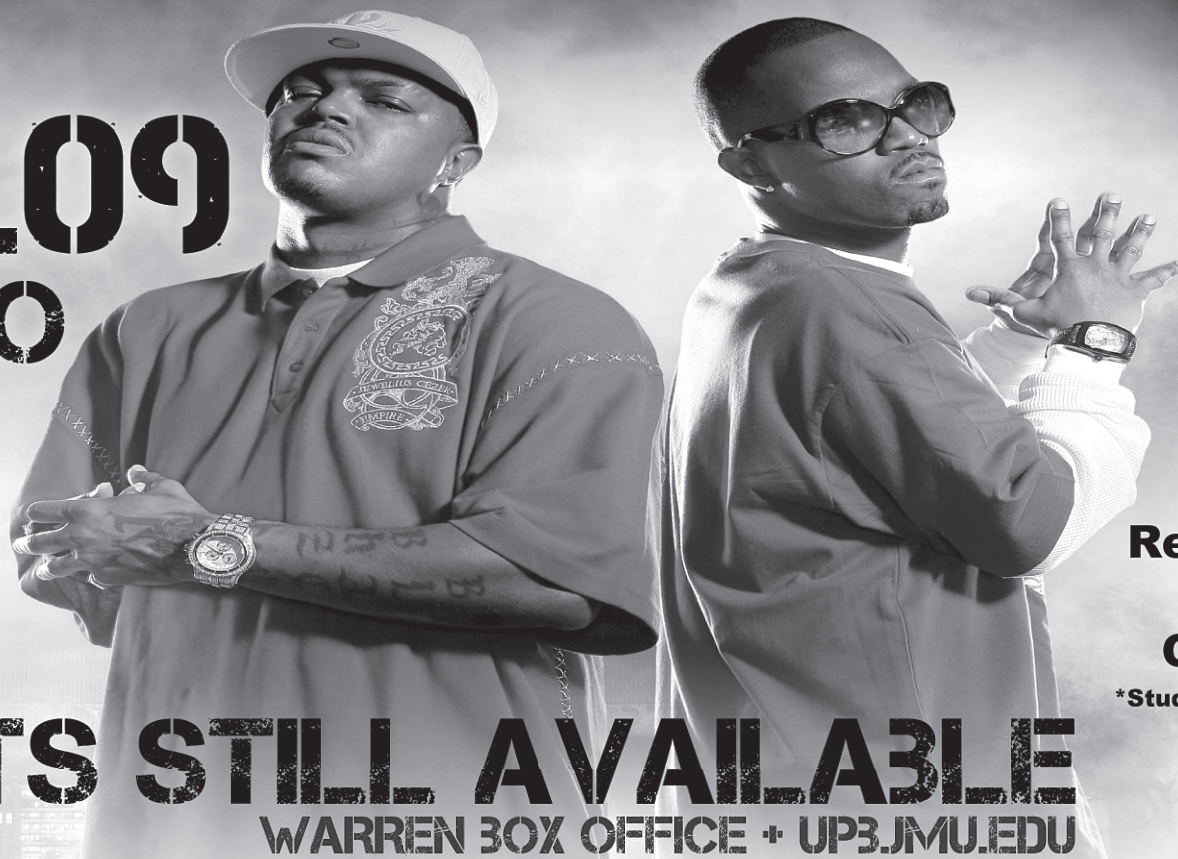




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# WHEATCROFT: Carrying on a Legacy

Wheatcroft, from page 13 all time," Ryder said.

Despite strong absences, the team looks to have a solid showing in the tournament this weekend. One clutch performance expected is that of Kale.

Kale finished third in collegiate men's recurve at this year's indoor nationals. He was an All-American last year, placing eighth at the U.S. Intercollegiate Archery Championships.

Half of the people on the

team will be shooting their first outdoor tournament on Saturday, Ryder said. "We're not going to 'dominate' let's say. We're a little weak handed, not quite up to what we normally are, but we have some really good shooters coming in."

The team is using this weekend's tournament to prepare for matches such as regionals and nationals.

"I guarantee you I will have them understanding how to win again," Ryder

said. "They'll shoot better than their experience will normally allow."

It's safe to say that Ryder ('75) has experience, coaching at JMU since 1992 and leading the team to 15 national championships. He was the school's first national champion and won the men's title at the 1973 U.S. Intercollegiate Archery Championships. He also tied for the school's first All-American with Alt Meyer ('74).



EVAN MCGREW/The Breeze

Junior Katie Jepson shoots recurve at practice Tuesday. Recurve is the style of bow that Olympic archers shoot.

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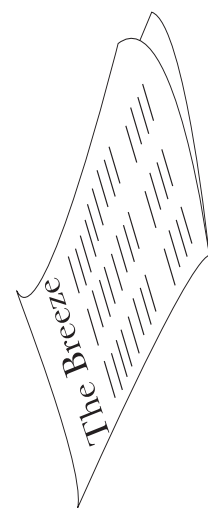


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# WINE: Vineyards Provides 13 Selections

Wine, from page 11 so choose.

Staff member Karen Andrews gracefully poured the wine into the glasses, and informed the participants to take two sips.

"The first sip is to shock your palate, and the second is to really taste it," Andrews said.

In order to make the taste stand out even more, Andrews distributes a handful of chocolate chips with the last wine on the list: the Raspberry Serenade. The tart, fruity taste suddenly changed, mimicking the taste of a sweet dessert.

"It tasted almost like something out of a Russel Stover box of chocolates," said senior Marybeth Petescia, who visited the

winery for her first time.

Andrews, who works at the vineyards and conducts wine sampling, said that she enjoys all of the wines equally.

"They are like my children," Andrews said. "I can't pick favorites."

But if she had to pick just one, the Pinot Noir would be her top choice, because Andrews said it pairs nicely with a variety of foods.

All in all, Andrews loves working at a vineyard. "I really like the people here," Andrews said. "And of course, I love the wine!"

**VISITOR'S TIP:**  
Don't forget your ID



DAN GORIN/The Breeze

The Shenandoah Vineyards provides free daily tours.

# TRADE: Post Displays Native American Culture

Trade, from page 11

The trading post also offers pottery, jewelry, moccasins, blankets and traditional Native American artwork. Items range in price and origin as many of the pieces come from tribes including the Hopi, Zuni, Navaho and Mohican.

The couple also hosts the annual Shenandoah Valley Powwow every year and will be celebrating their ninth annual on June 27 and June 28.

The event will include demos by Back Woods Survival Skills, stories by Ken Quiet Hawk and Deborah New Moon Rising as well as craft vendors.

Traditional foods and music promotes an interactive atmosphere for dancing and socializing.

"It was definitely a cool experience," senior Lisa Maurer said. "I wasn't sure what to expect upon going, but I was glad I did. It was really a unique way to see traditional Native American culture."

The Silver Phoenix Indian Trading Post is an interesting experience for anyone wishing to experience, see or purchase traditional Native American products from near and far. Having such an authentic establishment so close is something to take advantage of.



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# ROCK: Local bands perform In various venues around town

Rock, from page 11

"These additions or replacements have brought venues even closer together than last year and will perpetuate the feel of being able to walk or bike between all of the events," Holsinger said.

Music is broken down into genres called showcases, ranging from hip-hop to loud rock. This year's headliners include New York's Obits, End of a Year, Kentucky's Young Widows and Richmond's Antlers.

Over the years MACRoCk has had a knack for helping to expose great talent before they reached a wider audience. Dashboard Confessional, Sufjan Stevens and Coheed and Cambria have all played at the event in years past.

Along with the music itself, MACRoCk also features workshops, a record label exposition that Holsinger compares to a "punk rock flea market," and panels, which many involved with MACRoCk consider the most

important and rewarding aspect of the weekend.

This year, the panels will occur on Saturday afternoon, and will focus on topics such as independent publishing, careers and trends in the music industry and sustainability within local communities. Many of the panels have guest speakers from within their respected fields, and all encourage open discussion and communication.

This year marks the 12th year running for MACRoCk after skipping a year in 2007. James Madison University has helped hold MACRoCk since 1996 by providing on-campus venues and financial support. In 2008 MACRoCk was back, this time acting as a completely separate entity from the university.

This Friday and Saturday, check out the variety of bands, panels, record labels and workshops littered around Harrisonburg for the picking.

For more information on and to see a full schedule of bands and events and to order tickets online, visit [MACRoCk.org](http://MACRoCk.org).

# Llamas on the Commons



JESSICA DODDS/The Breeze

Students enjoy a petting zoo Tuesday as a part of Crazy Commons Spring Fest put on by the University Program Board.

# FISHING: Guides Offer float trips

Fishing, from page 11

River for smallmouth bass.

The Mossy Creek Fly Fishing Store boasts of being in the middle of what has been recently named "one of the top 10 vacation spots in the country" by Money Magazine.

Fly fishing classes are also available through the shop's Orvis-endorsed Fly Fishing School, either in Harrisonburg or at Wintergreen Resort. These classes cover beginners through experts.

There is a price tag. Susie Q Farm costs \$60 a day per person. However, the serenity and peacefulness of the private stream more than makes up for it.

If you're looking for a

less costly fishing experience, move outside the private waters.

Mossy Creek, spanning eight miles from the village of Mt. Solon to its confluence with the North River, offers a four-mile section open to the public. All that's needed is a free permit, which is allocated at the Verona office of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

The Shenandoah National Park also offers around 800 miles of fishable streams open to the public. The only cost is a fishing license.

So get away for the day, and experience all the water the area has to offer.

# New CD Blitzes Dance Floor

DREW BEGGS

The Breeze

"Shake it like a ladder to the sun."  
"Off with your head, dance 'till you're dead."

Karen O, front woman of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, might have been trying to say something about the band's new album, "It's Blitz!" in these respective lines from the tracks "Zero" and "Heads Will Roll."

And while the album does provide hard-punching vocals and reckless-abandon dance rhythms with a touch of disco, almost half the album is comprised of more mellow and softer melodies.

The Yeah Yeah Yeahs are perhaps best known in the mainstream for their appearance on Rock Band with their single "Maps," but their latest album "It's Blitz!" has plenty to offer

for old fans and those who have never heard of them.

The album could be grouped into two types: dance songs and slow songs. It's almost a clean break, as "Dull Life" feels less like a dance tune and more like the true-to-form punk rock that could be the sole soundtrack to strutting around in big sunglasses and sporting a badass attitude.

"Shame and Fortune" comes with a catchy chorus, but gets lost between two haunting tracks: "Skeletons" and "Runaway." The former enters with a slowly building synth, and Karen O's three-word lines leave the listener with a serenity that one wouldn't expect from a band usually classified as alternative or art-punk. This innocent sweetness continues in "Soft Shock," "Hysterics" and "Little Shadow."

The relatively large amount of laid-back songs on this Yeah Yeah Yeahs

album is a step away from their more signature howl.

"Dragon Queen" has disco or funk airs to it, but compared to the other upbeat tracks, it falls short. Still, the closing track "Faces" gets back to the idea: catchy chorus that's good for dancing.

The biggest drawback to the album is its lack of cohesion. There aren't quite enough limb spasm-ing dance songs, and while the ballads are haunting and the love songs peaceful, five of them on an 11-track album is too much.

Rather than taking any of them away though, an increase in the number of overall tracks would have made "It's Blitz!" ideal.

Enough with the Flo-Rida and Akon playlists; put on the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. Karen O will see to the rest.

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Ballet keeps players on their toes

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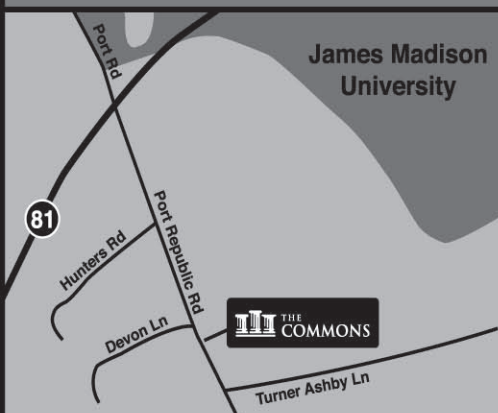
Eleni Menoutis, travel guru and blogger, shares tips on studying abroad and navigating Europe

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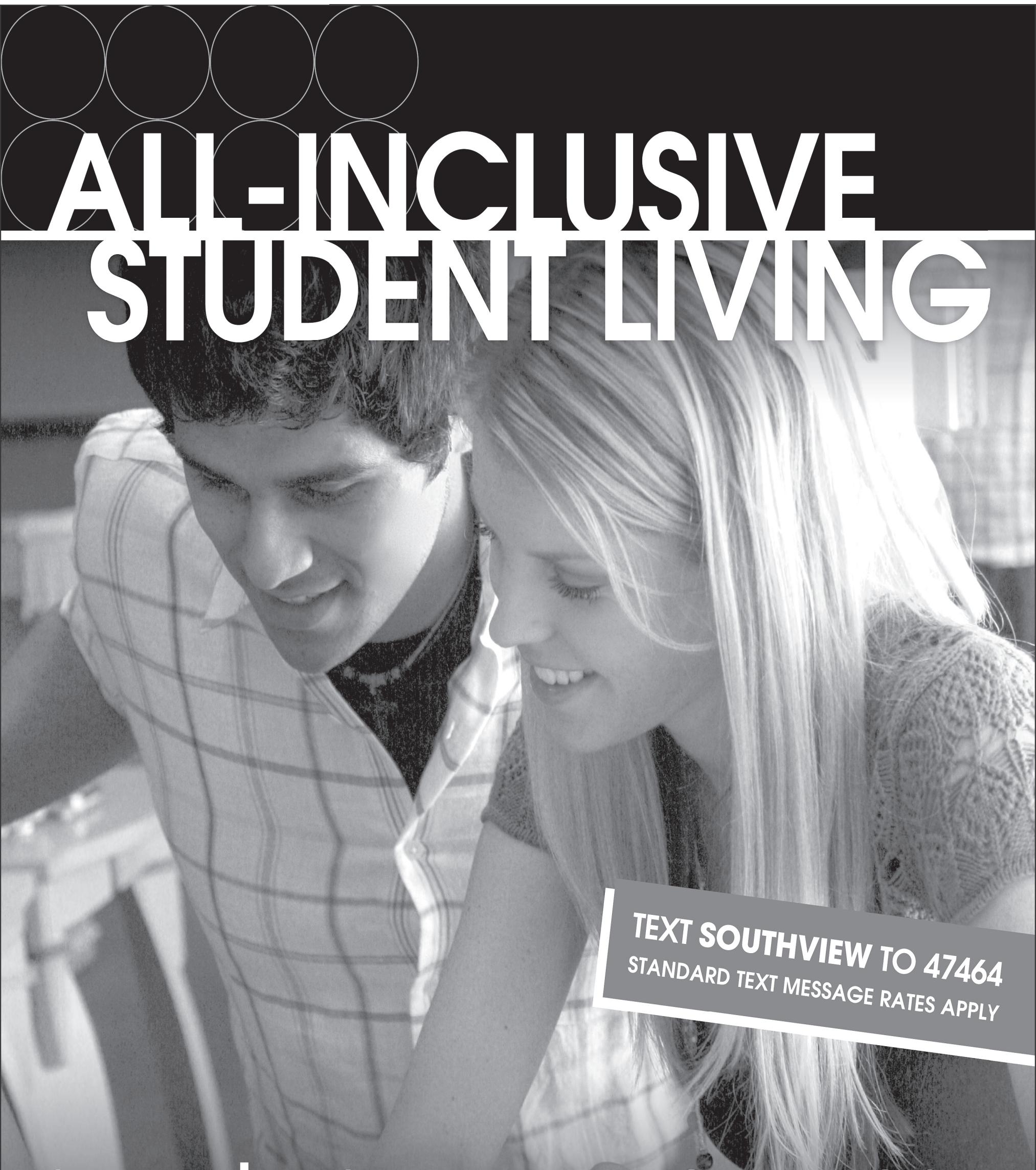
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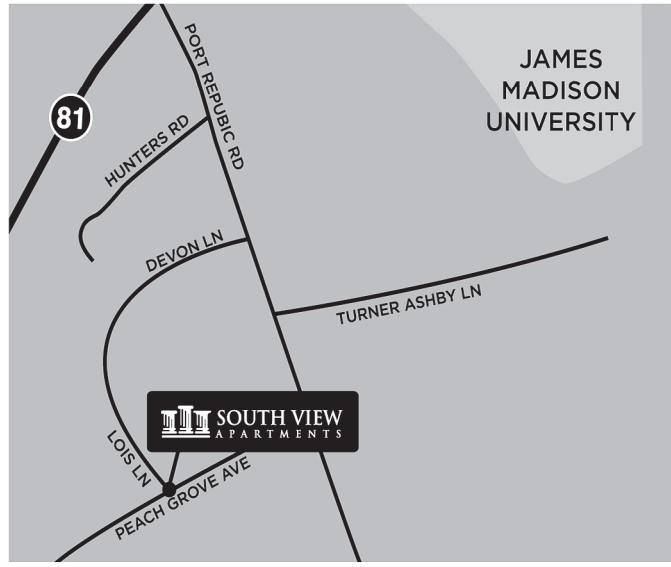




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