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Matthew Sasser

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Senior fellow faces backlash

While Virginia Senator proposes bill against immediate hiring of BoV members, Bolling focuses on his new passion

By KATELYN WALTEMYER
The Breeze

Shortly after Bill Bolling, a senior fellow in residence for public service, began his new role at JMU, he and the university received criticism from Virginia Republican Sen. Mark Obenshain in regard to a potential conflict of interest with Bolling’s hire.

Obenshain took issue with Bolling’s hiring because he believed it proposed an ethical dilemma: Bolling worked closely with JMU President Jonathan Alger on the BoV. According to Obenshain, discussions of employment took place while Bolling was still on the BoV, but Bolling and Bill Wyatt, director of communications and university spokesman, assert this is untrue. In response, Obenshain introduced a bill Dec. 12 on the hiring of former BoV members, which is also sponsored by Amanda Chase (R) and Steven Landes (R).

The proposed bill has been submitted for committee review and if passed, it will eliminate the opportunity for any BoV member to take on a position at the university immediately after their term. Instead, the bill proposes that university officials wait four years after they’ve served on the BoV before the university can hire them. The bill will be voted on in February. If it passes, Gov. Ralph Northam has six weeks to sign it before it goes into effect in July.

“I do not pretend to know the motivations behind the hiring, but it is a relationship so close that I believe it should have been clear that it was too close and would violate most people’s notion of what would be advisable of contract under traditional conflict of interest rules,” Obenshain said.

As a senior fellow, Bolling has both administrative and faculty responsibilities. Bolling is in charge of evaluating JMU’s economic development, working on the corporate council to raise funds for JMU, facilitating engagement off campus by raising awareness about programs such as the Valley Scholars and hosting guest lectures throughout the semester.

Despite Obenshain’s proposed bill, Bolling has continued to stay on track with his endeavors and “focus on the positives.” He’s scheduled 24 guest lectures for this semester after hosting 12 in the fall. According to Bolling, both he and Alger believe his role as senior fellow has “come together beyond our wildest expectations” and he doesn’t want any politics to distract from the progress he has made at JMU.

“Decline of our collective ability to get along despite our differences has never been more apparent,” Alger said in a statement. “As the university named for James Madison, the Father of the Constitution, we have a special responsibility to recruit and hire individuals who will help advance our goal of renewing civil society and stanch the trend toward a lack of civility in politics and public discourse. Bill Bolling brings to JMU an exceptional background as a longtime Virginia public servant who has been known for his strong commitment to civility, compromise and bridging political and social divides.”

Bolling (left) ended his term on the Board of Visitors in June and was hired as the university’s first senior fellow in August. Obenshain, a former JMU BoV member, has expressed harsh criticism of his employment.
Similar hires of BoV members at Virginia universities have been made in the past, but this is the first time Obenshain, who assumed office in 2004, has been aware of such a situation. In 1994, Paul Tribe, now Christopher Newport University’s president, became a member of the BoV. He later applied to become the next president of the university and began his term as president in 1996. In 2012, Marge Connelly, a retired financial services executive and former BoV member for Longwood University, was selected as the university’s interim president while on the board. Connelly resigned from the BoV the day she received the new position.

“Obviously, CNU thought Paul Tribe was the right guy to be president and they were right, he’s been a great president and Longwood obviously thought that Marge Connelly was the right person — JMU thought I was the right person to come in and do this,” Bolling said. “The distinction, however, I want to continue drawing, is that they were sitting members of the Board of Visitors when they were hired by the university and I was not. So there is a distinction between those things that gets lost when trying to objectively explain to people what we’re trying to do.”

Over the years, Obenshain has supported Bolling in political campaigns, served on the JMU Board of Visitors and has had a child attend the university. According to Obenshain, there’s no “ill will” toward Bolling or the university, but he believes there are others who may have deserved the position.

“I think there’s a lot of faculty and staff at JMU who have spent 20, 30, 40 years at this university that are getting paid a heck of a lot less and I feel for them,” Obenshain said. “I really think that there are a lot of people who have similar commitments to the university that aren’t being rewarded.”

According to Wyatt, Bolling has far exceeded the expectations originally laid out for him in this position, and the university has greatly benefited from his endeavors.

“It would be a shame if legislation passes to deny our students and the community of this experience that he brings to the university,” Wyatt said. “We’re committed to create students who are engaged in the community and their civic process and that’s what this hire is all about.”

Bolling has created four different types of lectures since coming to JMU, all of which are focused on government, civic engagement and leadership. He’s also created one-time teachings for some classes that he’s been invited to, such as a school finance lecture in an education course. According to Bolling, it took him 61 years to discover his passion for teaching.

“I have found that this is my passion, and whether that bill passes or not, I will find a way to try to continue to be engaged in spreading that message because I think this is just the way I want to spend my last — I call it the final phase — of my professional life,” Bolling said. “You reach a point in life where you want what you’re doing to be more purposeful and I have found purpose in coming here and having the ability to share my experiences with students at JMU.”

**CONTACT** Katelyn Waltemyer at breezenews@gmail.com. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.

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**PHOTO:** Courtesy of JMU Creative Media.
In preparation for snowfall before a day of classes, there are up to 50-60 facilities management staff members working through the night shoveling snow.

“It’s hard to do while the snow is coming down,” Craig Short, executive director of facilities and construction, said. “I call it snow fighting.”

Facilities Management first prioritizes areas such as fire lanes and handicap-accessible areas, then moves down a hierarchy of locations such as dining halls, libraries and UREC. There are over 29 miles of sidewalks at JMU that must be cleared.

“We have managed to make the expectations for snow removal so high,” Short said. “People expect every inch of a sidewalk to be clear, but it’s difficult. If you’ve worked all night, sometimes these guys put in 16 hours of hard work.”

While staff members work to shovel snow, administrators are busy working to decide if a cancellation is necessary. Public Safety, Facilities Management, the city of Harrisonburg and Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation are in constant communication with each other. They rely on each other’s area of expertise for the best information.

“Ultimately, our job is to provide students with an education,” Bill Wyatt, university spokesman, said. “We want to make sure that everybody stays safe. We want our students to be in the classroom, our faculty want to be in the classroom.”

JMU Public Safety pulls all the available information together. Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, Charles King, makes a recommendation to Jonathan Alger, president of JMU, who has the ultimate say in whether the university is open or closed. Once the decision is made, University Communications relays it to the public.

While many students believe the university notifies students of cancellations so late because JMU wants to prevent partying, Wyatt said the school just wants to make sure that it makes the most informed decision possible.

“We will wait until the last minute because the weather forecast is constantly changing,” Wyatt said. “The closer we get to the storm, the more accurate the information is.”
According to Burgess Lindsey, assistant residency administrator at the Virginia Department of Transportation, information from weather forecasts including the National Weather Service is used to determine how many trucks they need to clear snow for the roads.

"JMU receives our news releases (including road-condition updates) and follows our social media postings," Lindsey said in an email.

Regardless of whether Harrisonburg City Public Schools are open or closed, JMU makes its own decision. Wyatt said that during the threat of the hurricane early last semester, some students assumed that JMU would close since Bridgewater College closed for a day. However, Bridgewater sits on a river, and forecasts predicted 10-12 inches of rain.

"There are a lot of complicating factors it seems like with each storm," Wyatt said. "Every agency has their own specific area of expertise — we have to rely on that for a comprehensive approach."

According to Wyatt, the chief of police is on the phone with many different agencies and administrations. An individual from Public Safety will also drive through student apartment complexes and survey how clear they are. They also constantly check various weather apps for the most up-to-date information.

"We assess at 2 or 3 in the morning where we’re at and reconvene every hour once we sort of know where we’re at," Short said. "We consult with the administration and kind of collectively make the decision based on information we have."

CONTACT Matthew Sasser at sasserma@dukes.jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.
Prime-time professor

JMU history instructor appears on TLC show ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’

BY KAMRYN KOCH
The Breeze

In January 2018, JMU history professor Rebecca Brannon was contacted by TLC to appear on the season finale of its 11th season of “Who Do You Think You Are?” On Dec. 17, on over 2 million viewers’ TV screens, Brannon helped uncover featured celebrity Matthew Morrison’s family history with her knowledge of the American Revolutionary War.

WDYTYA engages its audience in history by learning about the ancestry of celebrities such as Kelly Clarkson, John Stamos and J.K. Rowling. The producers of the show find historians from around the world to aid in the research of these ancestries to confirm the information is accurate.

Brannon was selected for the show because of her knowledge of South Carolina loyalists. Brannon was originally contacted by one of the show’s producers in February to get a sense of her demeanor on camera. In April, she was flown to Charleston, South Carolina, and filmed alongside Morrison at the Charleston Library Society.

“I certainly had jitters,” Brannon said. “It was a lot of fun, though. [Morrison] was a really nice, really interesting person. He embraced the experience of learning about his family.”

Both a professor and historian, Brannon has dedicated much of her time to the study of the loyalists of South Carolina in the American Revolution. She’s involved with the research department at Monticello and has written the award-winning book “From Revolution to Reunion: The Reintegration of the South Carolina Loyalists.” With this experience, she provided Morrison with information about his sixth great grandfather, who fought as a loyalist in South Carolina.

Her appearance on WDYTYA wasn’t Brannon’s first experience with a TV show. In 2016, she was filmed for Bill O’Reilly’s special history series “Legends and Lies: The Patriots.” This episode highlighted the efforts of South Carolina militia leader Francis Marion, and Brannon helped provide information about him.

“They were both really interesting experiences,” Brannon said. “But I would say that filming for the TLC show ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ was much more fun because I had a chance to help shape what we were going to say.”

Brannon’s family was enthusiastic and supportive throughout the process and several members either recorded the episode or watched it live. According to history professor Evan Friss, the history department was also involved with the research department.

“Of course I love teaching, but I can’t teach 2 million people at one time,” Brannon said. “It was an incredible experience, but it’s a chance to bring the history I love to a much wider audience.”

Brannon also serves on the university’s 2019 Commemoration Committee alongside executive adviser to the president Mike Davis, who handpicked her because of her expertise in early American history.

“Faculty members have this reputation of being stuffy, and I think she did a great job of being very interactive with Matthew Morrison, but at the same time really highlighting her academic work and her academic abilities,” Davis said. “It was really cool.”

According to Davis, this opportunity doesn’t come often to JMU faculty. Though professors do sometimes appear on the news and in articles, the chance to be on a popular TV show is rare. Brannon is thankful for the opportunity to teach an audience outside the classroom.

“Of course I love teaching, but I can’t teach 2 million people at one time,” Brannon said. “I was incredibly excited to do the episode because it’s a chance to bring the history I love to a much wider audience.”

Brannon was contacted by TLC to appear on “Who Do You Think You Are?” in January 2018. She helped uncover featured celebrity Matthew Morrison’s family history with her knowledge of the American Revolutionary War.
Monday, January 28th
#JMUStudyAbroad Photo Contest Begins!
For contest info, follow us on Instagram at @JMUStudyAbroad!

Travel Photography Workshop
6:00pm – 7:30pm | Madison Union 404
Join us for a fun workshop by JMU Photography Club as they provide tips on how to take awesome photos on the go!

Tuesday, January 29th
Study Abroad Social
11:30am – 2:00pm | SSC 1075

Advising with Coffee and Treats
2:00pm – 4:00pm | SSC 1075

Exploring Africa
6:00pm – 7:00pm | SSC 1075
Join us for a discussion on the impact of studying abroad in Africa! Hear from a panel of students share their experiences abroad.

Study Abroad in Florence: Info Sessions
6:00pm – 7:30pm | Madison Hall 2001
Semester in Florence (undergraduate program) at 6:00pm
EUPS (graduate M.A. program) at 6:45pm

Wednesday, January 30th

Advising with Coffee and Treats
2:00pm – 4:00pm | SSC 1075

Study Abroad Financial Aid Info Session
4:00pm – 5:00pm | SSC 1075

Taste of Study Abroad
6:30pm – 8:00pm | SSC 1075

Thursday, January 31st

Study Abroad Financial Aid Info Session
4:00pm – 5:00pm | Madison Hall 2001

Marketing Your Study Abroad Experience
5:00pm – 6:30 pm | Madison Hall 2001
Learn ways to effectively share your study abroad experiences on resumes, cover letters, and in interviews!

Roommate Mixer (with ORL)
7:00pm | Madison Union Ballroom
Staying on campus after your study abroad experience and need to find a roommate? We’ve got you covered! Join us to find the perfect match!

Friday, February 1st

Photo Contest winners announced!
Check out the amazing winners at @JMUStudyAbroad

For more info, please visit:
www.jmu.edu/global/abroad/sa-week
‘The Bachelor’ franchise shouldn’t exploit Colton Underwood’s virginity, as it’s harmful for him and has caused a frenzy on social media

ELIZA MACKNIGHT | two cents’ worth

The 23rd season of “The Bachelor” premiered Jan. 7, cueing a new wave of viewing parties across the country. Colton Underwood, the star of this year’s journey, immediately created a social media frenzy after being revealed as the next man every woman on the show would be head over heels for.

As a former NFL player and founder of the Legacy Foundation — a charity benefiting children with cystic fibrosis — members of Bachelor nation immediately fell in love with the kind-hearted 26-year-old who, not to mention, is pretty easy on the eyes. What made headlines, however, wasn’t the fact that Underwood ran a charity or that he was a former pro athlete — it was that he’s the first ever virgin Bachelor.

Ever since admitting to ex-girlfriend and Season 14 Bachelorette star Becca Kufrin that he was a virgin, the country has been fixated on his journey to find love and anxiously await to see what lucky woman will “take his v-card.” While everyone can agree that the contestants on Colton’s season fighting for his virginity makes for entertaining TV, it’s also become painfully clear that as the Bachelor to gain viewers and exploit his virginity.

The host of the show, Chris Harrison, makes it a point several times throughout each episode to reiterate the fact that he’s remained abstinent his whole life. Contestants cracked jokes as they introduced themselves to him, such as poking a red balloon and telling him they hope to “pop his cherry.”

The excessive number of virgin references has already gotten old, as it’s now expected each Monday night for Bachelor fans nationwide to tweet out complaints about them. Not only is it just exhausting to listen to, but it also brings up the question of why it’s such a huge deal.

While Colton is deviating from social norms by remaining a virgin at age 26 — the average age to lose your virginity in America being around 17 for both genders — he’s not doing anything wrong. He’s entitled to make their own decisions, sexual encounters to feel validated. Everyone is entitled to make their own decisions, and while it’s healthy for people to begin exploring their sexuality by their late teenage years, it’s just as normal to wait.

Colton Underwood is a grown man with his own set of beliefs just like everyone else, so it’s not anyone’s right to take something that clearly means so much to him and exploit it. Hopefully ABC realizes it’s annoying the audience it so desperately tried to satisfy this season and promoting unhealthy societal standards about sex.

A final note to ABC: If Colton does end up finding the woman he chooses to lose his virginity to, please don’t exploit that, too. You’ve already done enough. And a word to this season’s contestants: For your own sake, stop making virgin jokes right in front of him. He’s looking for a wife, and being that disrespectful about his personal decisions isn’t cute. Good luck getting a rose after that one, honey.

Eliza MacKnight is a sophomore psychology major. Contact Eliza at macknieg@dukes.jmu.edu.
Eggs are no longer just a breakfast food, and one particular egg has a whole lot more in common with celebrities than most people. On Jan. 4, a photograph of an ordinary brown egg was posted to an Instagram account with the purpose of beating the world record for most Instagram likes. The record was previously held by Kylie Jenner with 18 million, and the egg far surpassed this number. As of Wednesday, the original egg photo has over 50,000,000 likes and has become a widespread meme and the talk of 2019.

Reactions to the egg include a makeup tutorial by PatrickStarrr demonstrating how to become the egg, an impersonation of Shane Dawson interviewing the egg by Vincent Marcus and a lime that attempted to become the most retweeted post on Twitter (now deleted). Many personal accounts posted pictures of the egg, spreading it even further and helping it garner more likes. Jenner herself reacted to the egg on her Snapchat story by posting a video of her cracking an egg on her driveway. This then became a meme that she posted to her Instagram, garnering over 37 million views.

All this said, the egg raises many questions about the power that social media gives to the people. The creator of the infamous Instagram account has remained anonymous, but they did send comments to The Independent in the U.K., revealing their inspiration for posting the egg.

“I thought it would be an interesting experiment to try and beat the record with something as basic as possible,” the anonymous creator said. “Which led to me deciding on the egg. I guess it’s also a comment on celebrity culture and how fragile and easily cracked it is — pun intended. But really I just thought it would be funny if something as simple as an egg could take the crown.”

It’s almost as if the originator were conducting a social experiment on the world. Although they may not have known if it would actually work, the simplicity of the post and goal to spite Jenner attracted millions to the cause. As social media users everywhere double-tapped the aesthetically pleasing egg, they were unconsciously participating in a demonstration of the inconsequential nature of internet fame.

In a world of social media influencers — who make millions off each Instagram post or YouTube video — society must ask itself why it’s chosen specific users to gain recognition. The egg breaks open assumptions of fame and popularity. Each day there’s something new that gains attention and something old on its way out.

People praise Instagram-famous accounts and strive to make money on the platform any way they can. But what they don’t realize is they’re completely at the mercy of people’s fickle minds. One wrong move can cause the downfall of years of efforts to make it to the top. What people are paying attention to right now can reach millions with the click of the button. However, one person’s viral Instagram post or tweet can also be forgotten in a month, a few days, maybe even a few hours. Internet fame is fleeting and all-powerful. There’s nothing else like it in the world. The next egg might be right around the corner.

Ryann Sheehy is a sophomore theater and media arts and design double major. Contact Ryann at sheehyrt@dukes.jmu.edu.
Today’s children are the first ever to grow up with technology constantly at their fingertips. Parents give their children an iPad like a pacifier, and even toddlers are capable of logging into and playing on a device. This unhealthy fixation has underlying developmental impacts on children’s growth.

Since this phenomenon has never happened in previous generations, there aren’t many historical background or long-term studies of technology’s effect on children’s development. However, it’s well known that the human brain is most malleable and vulnerable in early stages of life, particularly through infancy.

According to psychologist Jim Taylor, technology greatly affects the way children process information. While reading — not on a screen — forced previous generations to deeply process and sculpt the information they saw, technology teaches the brain to rapidly scan information. He says that reading is visually restricting and, therefore, produces no distraction or stimuli. This is essential in teaching the brain how to be attentive.

Taylor says without the fundamental skill of attention, other skills like reasoning and problem solving can’t be formed. Children today are constantly exposed to technology like TV and the internet. These technologies are meant to be a constant source of visual stimuli — serving the exact opposite purpose of paying attention to just one thing.

Another negative effect on children was discovered through a group of UCLA researchers. They found that removing children from their technological devices resulted in their heightened ability to recognize human emotion over the other technology-exposed children. They say that when humans are babies, they’re at the prime age for learning about human interaction. They hint to the hindering effect that technology could pose on this development, since their study showed that it pushes children to be less engaged.

Even though Taylor cites studies in which children who use technology have a lesser ability to recall information and be engaged than those who don’t, he says technology isn’t all bad. Taylor believes it can be used for improving reaction times and visual abilities, but that too much on-screen time is never recommended. However, it’s difficult to know where to draw the line with children’s technology use, since it can be addictive for many users. It’s easy for parents to fall into the routine of letting their child spend more time on their devices than initially allowed, and it’s often difficult to resist the urge to bring along a device as an easy distraction in public for their child.

A nonprofit organization called Common Sense Media aims to help children make “good choices” surrounding technology, like limiting their screen time to help lessen these negative outcomes. While precautionary measures like these will certainly help limit negative effects, it’s difficult to accurately assess just how damaging the long-term consequences will be. However, it unfortunately may not be impossible to predict a likely grim outcome based on psychology and short-term studies.

Josie Haneklau is a freshman political science major. Contact Josie at hanekljr@dukes.jmu.edu.
Dr. McIntosh, Ph.D., D. Sc., is presently visiting Research Professor in Thermodynamics and Combustion Theory at the University of Leeds, UK, and Adjunct Professor at Mississippi State University. He is famous for patenting the pressure relief valve system of the amazing Bombardier Beetle for which he and his team at the University of Leeds has received the prestigious 2010 Times Higher Educational award for the Outstanding Contribution to Innovation and Technology. McIntosh’s interest in Intelligent Design led him to study the delivery system of the Bombardier Beetle spray which led him to patent the unique system, which may have application to technologies used in fuel injectors, pharmaceutical sprays, fire extinguishers, and aerosols.

January 28th 2019
Grafton-Stovall Theatre at James Madison University
Parking Lot C-4

7:00 pm “The Extraordinary Bombardier Beetle: Proof of Intelligent Design”
8:00 pm Has Science Killed God?
In the first class of the semester, Spanish professor Hugo Moreira often draws two trees to illustrate both his personality and how he wants the class to go. There’s an oak and a palm tree, a cloud blowing strong wind and the two trees swaying. He asks the class which tree will break and explains that the palm tree, due to its flexibility, will sway along while the oak tree will break because of its stiffness.

“We are facilitators of knowledge — that means that I have a little rag in my hand, and I just clean your little light, your Spanish light, to make it shine brighter,” Moreira said. “I am not your light, you are your own light.”

Moreira is a musician, minister, translator and soccer player, though some students only know him as their Spanish teacher.

Students admire Moreira for his personal approach to teaching. One day, a student came to his class with a rose for him. Moreira said he was embarrassed, but grateful, as she then invited him to join her family at Thanksgiving, where he had the opportunity to meet her friends and family.

“That happened because of teaching,” Moreira said. “People believe that teachers only educate in their subject. But not only that, it is more than language. You’re going to share culture, likes, dislikes. I get to know about who you are and what life means to you, and the same the other way.”

Born in Uruguay, Moreira has been living in the U.S. for almost 12 years. He came to work for Cornerstone Christian School but later found an opening at JMU. Though his English was limited at the time, this wasn’t his first experience in the U.S. He came with a singing group of people from Argentina and Brazil who performed at colleges, churches and radio stations when he was 18. Now, Moreira continues his passion for music by playing guitar with a musical group that plays old-time music at local farmers’ markets and fundraisers.

“Music brings people together, and that’s why I love music,” Moreira said. “I feel, to tell you the truth, closer to God when I am playing or listening to music.”

Moreira encourages his students to use their musical talents in the classroom, not only to learn Spanish, but to build a community of learners. Whether it’s singing, dancing or playing, he wants his students to learn from each other.

Moreira learns from his students as well. He believes the English he speaks today has improved because of the interactions with students, who teach him the newest slang.

JMU Spanish professor Samuel Hernandez has known Moreira for the past eight years. In two of his classes, Grammar and Communication and Oral and Written Communication, he has students fill out surveys for who their previous Spanish professor was.

“When that question comes up, the student always says Hugo, like he’s right there hugging him,” Hernandez said. “There’s this affection factor involved, which is very important in language learning.”

Outside of the classroom, Moreira shares his gift of language to translate. He helps out at local hospitals, bridging the gap between doctors and patients when there’s a language barrier.

“I like what I do, and underneath, it is helping somebody,” Moreira said. “I’ve been interpreting for the last eight, nine years. It is a fulfilling experience.”

Sophomore public policy and administration major Ally Voegtlin took Intermediate Spanish I with Moreira. When he found out she plays soccer, he shared an unorthodox piece of advice.

“He was like, ‘How do you defend against someone when you take a header against someone really tall?’ What you do is step on your foot with your cleat and then the referee won’t see it. They’ll go down and you will win the header,” Voegtlin said.

Moreira was a minister in Uruguay for 30 years. Soccer played an important part in Moreira’s life as he tried to show local troublemakers a new path in life.

He considers suggesting his church to have a soccer field to be one of his greatest achievements. Children from bad homes could leave the streets, dispose of their weapons and play with each other on the field. At one point, Moreira had 32 switchblades in his desk.

“They had to leave all their weapons there,” Moreira said. “Usually there were two teams on the field, with two or three waiting.”

Moreira lives alone without a TV, but always with a guitar by his side. His wife, whom he married in June, currently lives in Uruguay. The immigration fees are $500, but the plan is for her to come to the states in August.

“I think everything that he’s done throughout his life has in some way helped to reinforce that skill that he has,” Hernandez said. “When you’re in the hospital interpreting, your job is to listen. If someone listens to you, they value you.”

CONTACT Mitchell Sasser at sassermp@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.
When choosing a name for an exhibit, Soenksen says she thought about the message it should send to visitors because the title is most likely what grabs someone’s attention. The goal of this title is to summarize the tone of the post-World War II period. “It’s very much about rocketing into new and uncharted territory both socially, politically and artistically,” Soenksen said. “All of the artists in the exhibition are responding to these changes that are going on in the post-war period, but they’re also trying to enact change within the art field and push boundaries. I liked that message of kind of propelling into the future.”

Some of the artists shown in “Rocket Age” are Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein and Japanese artist Toshiko Takaezu. One of Soenksen’s favorite pieces is called “Artists Rights Today” by Rauschenberg. He created the piece to show support for a law put forth in Congress in which artists would make money back from their resold work. “He sold a number of his works when he was a young, starving artist and then when he took off and became a household name, people started re-selling his works for thousands of dollars more,” Soenksen said. “He felt that the money from those resales should go back to the artist. So, this piece was him being artistically and politically active.”

“Rocket Age” is the second exhibit Soenksen has curated at JMU, following last semester’s “Breaking Chains: Voices from Slavery to Civil Rights.” She says that while “Breaking Chains” was a 400th anniversary tribute to the first African-Americans arriving to English North America, “Rocket Age” looks broadly at the way artists helped shape modern American culture during the post-war period. “I think it’s a major point of transition within American art history and I think we’re actually kind of going through another one of those right now,” Maddy Stratten, a sophomore anthropology major and intern at the museum, said. “I think it’s really nice to just see the history laid out chronologically and how artists interpreted the time that they were living in.”

Stratten is one of multiple student interns who work at the museum for class credit. Their duties for opening this exhibit included hanging artwork and informational cards about each piece and adjusting the lighting in the room so the art doesn’t produce a glare. “If more people knew it was here, I think they would definitely find this interesting,” Lauren Oakes, a senior history and Spanish double major and intern at the museum, said. “You don’t have to have a background in art to look at it.”

Soenksen will host a curator’s tour on Jan. 24 at 3 p.m., and the exhibit will remain open to the public until April 19. Once a month throughout the semester, the museum will hold “Coffee and Conversation” in which professors will discuss certain pieces. “I think one of the biggest takeaways is that change is constant and there is always something that is there to fight for,” Soenksen said. “I think that we live in a time where people are looking for optimism and I think seeing how far we’ve come can really help support that optimism as we enter into 2019.”

**CONTACT**

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The small town of Staunton, Virginia, is home to many hidden gems — one of them is the Camera Heritage Museum. Located on the corner of South Augusta Street and West Beverly Street, the museum has been keeping the history of photography and cameras alive since it publicly opened its doors in 2011.

Immediately upon entering, visitors are greeted by mountains of cameras covering every inch of the store surrounding the small pathways between displays. There are cameras ranging from the 1800s up to digital cameras from recent years. Visitors can see classics like the Canon AE-1 or even a Konica Aerial GSK-99, a camera used to capture the attack on Pearl Harbor. The museum also sells cameras and frames, scans and prints film and takes passport photos.

David Schwartz, curator of the museum and owner of the camera collection, developed an early love for photography at the age of 12 due to its ability to capture reality. His junior year of high school, he discovered the Camera Heritage Museum, which was only a camera shop at the time. He quickly fell in love with it.

“I liked the store a little bit more even though I became a professional photographer,” Schwartz said. “I got a master’s in photography, [but] I liked the technical part of it better, even though I did the portrait work until the year before last — 50 years of doing it. I like the equipment better than actually doing it.”

Schwartz began his collection when a man wanted sell his old camera, a W. Watson Acme field camera, and asked for $75. Schwartz used his next week’s pay to buy it and two days later, he sold it to a couple for $300.
Camera shop turned museum uses 6,000-piece collection to showcase art of photography

“And that’s really how I got started,” Schwartz said. “Ever since then, I’ve traded, bought [and] haggled.”

Two years after selling that first camera, Schwartz bought the store at only 21 years old, making him the youngest merchant in Staunton. The museum’s assistant curator, Boris Ballard — who always had an interest in photography — discovered the store shortly after moving to Staunton in 1994.

“I walked in here and I said, ‘Well, this is a place you can discover stuff,’ because everything was jumbled around and I’m like, ‘Oh, what’s that gem, what’s that gem,’ and that led me to meet David,” Ballard said. “And then he offered me a job.”

Today, Schwartz has almost 6,000 cameras in his collection. Only about one-third of it is on display.

His goal is to buy the former P. Buckley Moss Museum in Waynesboro, which is now owned by Virginia Tech and being sold for $6.4 million. Having a property like this would allow Schwartz to relocate his collection to a bigger area and allow him to expand the museum.

“It will also have a photographic school,” Schwartz said. “Ever since then, I’ve traded, bought [and] haggled. ”

Schwartz hopes to relocate to a larger property to expand his collection and make the museum more of an experience.

Schwartz's goal with the new location is to increase its impact and individuality.

“There are enough rooms to set up a really phenomenal museum,” Pippin said. “[Schwartz] could expand from what he has visible in the store now to a much larger collection. We have people who have been collecting for many, many years who are donating things to the museum and we’d like to have an area to display all of that ... it would be an ideal location.”

Contact Tristan Lorei at loreitm@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.
As the rest of the Dukes gather at midcourt, graduate student forward Cam Smith can’t help but smile as JMU men’s basketball head coach Louis Rowe tears the wrapping paper off his birthday and Christmas present containing the final product of hours and hours of hard work from the Tallahassee native.

Smith is a man of many talents. Originally from Florida, he started playing college basketball at Tallahassee Community College, spending one season there before playing two years at Florida International University. Rowe knew of Smith’s basketball ability and two years at Florida, he started playing college work from the Tallahassee native.

Smith began painting more seriously over the past three years. He got the inspiration to paint Rowe and Driesell when he saw a photo of them online. Smith began painting more seriously over the past three years. He got the inspiration to paint Rowe and Driesell when he saw a photo of them online.

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SPORTS

Something’s brewing

Strong start for JMU track and field hints at future potential as season progresses

By MICHAEL TURNER
The Breeze

The JMU track and field team doesn’t electrify campus. Students don’t stand in huddles discussing how the team will perform at the Eastern College Athletic Conference tournament or who’ll qualify for the NCAA final meet. However, the team, like silent professionals, continues to inch its way toward a memorable season.

The Dukes started their season with stellar performances at the Father Diamond Invitational on Jan. 5 in Fairfax, Virginia. With three ECAC qualifiers from seniors Dominique Johnson and Sidra Morris and junior Alexys Taylor and a staggering 19 top-10 finishes, the Dukes set a high standard for their following meets. So far, they’ve managed to continually surpass it.

Once again, at the Marshall Women’s Classic on Jan. 12, the team established more ECAC qualifiers. Additionally, Morris set a new school record in the weight throw with an 18.10 m (59’ 4.75”) toss.

“It was great, and I was really excited,” Morris said. “I actually knew the girl who had the record before me. She was here when my sister ran here.”

In addition to the record-breaking performances and ECAC-qualifying times are the outstanding performances of the freshmen on the team. This season, freshman Lauren Smith set a personal best in the 60 m dash while freshman Sinead Sargeant featured on the Distance Medley Relay team that qualified for the ECAC.

College track and field is different than in high school. It’s more competitive, harder and the practices and competitions are more intense. The pressure is more pronounced, but the freshmen appear to be unphased by the transition by the way they’re setting personal bests each meet.

“I think the team has a great attitude,” Johnson said. “We’re all really close. Every time we bring a new freshman group in, we bring them in really close and get really close with them because we want them to be a part of something great and keep the program in an upward trend. No freshman hazing.”

The team’s culture is a huge reason why JMU has had such a great start. When everyone is involved, breaking boundaries, setting new goals and encouraging their teammates to do the same, success is only natural.

“I think it’s amazing,” Taylor, who set a meet record in the 60 m dash at the Marshall Classic, said. “Especially because college isn’t just a whole different setting teamwise. Overall, school, friends, [everything is different], and so for them to be performing so well, I feel like they’re handling the pressure very, very well.”

While some athletes and programs may stop to admire their success, the track and field team has its eyes locked firmly ahead. The team is focused on one thing — improvement — which means no resting on any laurels yet.

“I still want to keep moving forward and PR-ing and keep moving up,” Johnson said. “I’m mostly worried about spring. We’re just going to keep pushing forward and PR-ing and keep moving up.”

The Dukes are doing just that, and hope to be surging toward one of their most memorable seasons in years. Their next outing is at the Liberty Kick-Off, a two-day meet beginning Friday.

CONTACT Michael Turner at turnermb@dukes.jmu.edu. For more track and field coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.
A stray shot misses wide of the lacrosse post on a cold winter morning, and JMU lacrosse practice comes to a halt. Head coach Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe screams out instructions, resets the drill and, after a brief silence, play resumes.

In a matter of weeks, that dead time will be filled with encouraging talk from various teammates and a healthy discussion on what to improve upon. For now, the team is searching for who’ll be leading the conversation among its peers.

“Right now, we’re really still focused on figuring out who we are as a team,” Klaes-Bawcombe said. “[We’re] re-establishing who we are and figuring out what the vision of this group is. And that takes time.”

It’s hard to imagine a team fresh off its first national championship in program history seeking vocal leadership. But after the Dukes graduated eight seniors — six of whom started every game last season — and all three team captains, the 2019 JMU lacrosse team is in the early stages of finding its newest voices.

“I think that we have to understand and respect the leadership and the seniors that we lost,” redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Molly Dougherty said. “Now, having new leadership, it’s really awesome to know that you’re not having someone hold your hand anymore. You’re going to be the person that needs to step in and help someone else out.”

Two seniors the Dukes have quickly turned to are defender Caroline Sdanowich and attacker Hanna Haven — two of the team’s newest captains. Both started all 23 contests in 2018 and were named Second Team All-CAA selections a year ago.

Coming back to practice this year was a weird experience for the two, as they became the seasoned vets they used to look up to over the last three years. But both have taken on that role with pride, and each offers different approaches to making her impact heard.

By BLAKE PACE
The Breeze

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JMU lacrosse spends preseason searching for new player leadership after eight seniors graduated

“Hanna’s the fiery, vocal leader and plays with a lot of passion and energy, and Caroline is the workhorse behind the scenes that is doing everything right, so she’s a leader by example,” Klaes-Bawcombe said. “So we just need each of them to be the best version of themselves and that, as a group, they offer up what this team needs.”

For Haven, it’s not just leadership she’ll be relied on for — it’s production as well. Although she was the second-highest Duke in total points last year with 79 off 47 goals and 32 assists, five of the remaining top six athletes in that category have since graduated. While she won’t be left alone on the attack — a handful of young players will fill the offensive rotation — Haven is ready to be the leader on offense.

“A goal’s a goal,” Haven said. “What’s really great about our team is we brought in a lot of new freshmen and they’re all super dynamic, they’re different in their own ways and because of that we’re scoring different goals.”

Haven admits that the offensive group has lost a little bit of height but has made up for that with an improvement in dodging. While the offense will feature Haven and a batch of younger talents, the defensive rotation will have a little more experience. They’ll feature a number of seniors and other upperclassmen, but its most profound voice may come from the last wall of defense.

Goalkeeper Molly Dougherty is coming off a remarkable freshman campaign that saw her take home First Team All-CAA Honors and VaSID Rookie of the Year. She’s garnered attention from the national women’s lacrosse team and is even heading to California this weekend to compete for Team USA in the Spring Premiere at Stanford University.

Once she returns from the warm weather out West, she’ll promptly place herself right in front of the net like nothing ever happened. Dougherty is all business, and ready to bring on an expanded role in 2019 despite just 14 appearances in 2018.

“I’m excited to go for a whole season,” Dougherty said. “It might not seem like a huge focus, but I think it’s really important to just be a consistent part of the defensive unit and to hone in on the relationship aspect. Instead of coming in halfway through the season, I want to start it off the best way we possibly can.”

So, yes, with the 2019 season just weeks away and the time between today’s 8 a.m. practice and the first game against UNC winding down, the Dukes are still working things out. But multiple players reiterated they felt just the same as they did last winter, and we all know how well that worked out for JMU lacrosse.

CONTACT Blake Pace at breezesports@gmail.com. For more lacrosse coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.

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4 GAMES
AT THE CONVO!

MENS

JAN. 24
7 PM

HOFSTRA

> iPad Giveaway

JAN. 26
4 PM

NORTHEASTERN

> Club Sports Challenge

WOMENS

JAN. 25
7 PM

W&M

JAN. 27
2 PM

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

ACROSS
1 Soft ball
2 Berkshire
3 Hathaway
4 headquarters city
5 Mine, in Montréal
6 Chicane
7 Band Los
8 "Enchanted" girl
9 Hors d’oeuvre cracker
10 Loose tautness
11 Logistician’s error, maybe
12 2011 Steve Carell romcom
13 Stangy affirmative
14 Light beam
15 Slangy affirmative
16 2011 Steve Carell
17 Poseidon’s realm
18 2011 Steve Carell
19 Old Nintendo
20 2011 Steve Carell
21 Federal bldgs., with mailboxes
22 Beaver
23 Like soda pop
24 Light beam
25 Poseidon’s realm
26 Pine-__/ cleaning
27 Protein-building
28 Town, in
29 Poet with
30 Evangelist named for an
31 Federal bldgs., with mailboxes
32 2011 Steve Carell
33 Decides not to
34 Rickety abode
35 Baseball club
36 Tulsa sch., named for an
37 Use an axe on
38 Diva’s time to shine
39 Savings plan int.
40 Fair-haired sci-fi
41 Logician’s error,
42 Test version
43 "Is there another way?"
44 "Is there another way?"
45 Landed
46 "Take two __ and
47 Put away
48 Pine-__/ cleaning
49 Old Nintendo
50 Itty
51 Hors d’oeuvre
52 Answer at the door
53 Pealed
54 Scratched (out)
55 Pocket bread
56 Small decorative case
57 Carpentry groove
58 Wasn’t honest
59 Call me ...
60 "Enchanted" girl
61 Malamute’s
62 Similar in nature
63 Online biz
64 Compete for the America’s Cup
65 Fish catchers
66 Art class subjects
67 Stubborn sort
68 Aussie greeting
69 Part of CEO
70 Marked for deletion

DOWN
1 2011 Steve Carell
2 House of Saud
3 2011 Steve Carell
4 Take two __ and
5 Part of a comfort simile
6 Mad Magazine cartoonist
7 Leigh Hunt’s "...
8 Earring style
9 "Take two __ and call me ...
10 Kind of dancer
11 Breakfast spread
12 Balkan native
13 Superman accessory
14 Answer at the door
15 Holle
16 Beaver creations
17 German
18 2011 Steve Carell
19 German
20 Irish bookmark
21 Protein-building acid
22 With dedication?
23 Military plane acronym
24 McCan’s running mate
25 2011 Steve Carell
26 All ye faithful ...
27 Decide not to attend
28 Baseball club
29 Tulsa Sch., named for an evangelist
30 Use an axe on
31 London area that includes Canary Wharf
32 "Is there another way?"
33 Decide not to attend
34 Baseball club
35 2011 Steve Carell
36 Tulsa Sch., named for an evangelist
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By Roland Huget 1/23/19

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SUDOKU

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Tuesday, January 22, 2019

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