

et al.: There's no place like home

Alumni News

There's no place like home

BY JESSICA SAVOIE ('14), *alumni relations assistant director*

The week of Oct. 23, hundreds of alumni returned to campus to celebrate Homecoming 2017. The week was filled with class reunions, school spirit, time-honored JMU traditions and even a few new Homecoming traditions.

To kick off Homecoming week, students and alumni were encouraged to show their JMU pride by wearing purple on Monday. Residence halls also submitted spirit banners for the annual Homecoming banner contest. The winner by popular demand was Chandler Hall! The rest of the week featured student events like Find the JMU Letters, Late Night Breakfast and Nightmare at UREC to help get campus ready for Homecoming weekend.

Friday couldn't have been a more beautiful day for the 19th Annual Homecoming Golf Tournament, hosted by the Harrisonburg Alumni Chapter. Even Duke Dog stopped by to take some pictures with the golfers. (We had to keep him away from the green, though, because he kept trying to chase the golf balls.) Proceeds from the event support Harrisonburg Alumni Chapter scholarships.

The afternoon continued with Quadfest, a new Homecoming tradition, that brought students, alumni and community members to the Quad for a "pup-rally"-themed event. The event featured adoptable rescue puppies from Anicura Veterinary Center, live disc jockey music, festival food, crafts, giveaways and photo-ops with Duke Dog, the JMU cheerleaders and the giant JMU letters! Following Quadfest, alumni headed into Wilson Hall for HomecomSing, a concert featuring all of JMU's a cappella groups.

Saturday began with a special Homecoming treat. To celebrate Homecoming and his upcoming retirement, Mark Warner, senior

vice president for student affairs, presented a *Lessons in Leadership* talk. Warner has been a member of the Madison community for more than 40 years, and many are familiar with his anecdotes and lessons that encourage listeners to lead more meaningful lives by paying it forward. Even the small act of leaving 5 cents in the vending machine for the next person to find can have an untold positive ripple effect. Warner's Homecoming talk was a great example of the numerous lives that have been touched by his leadership and service to our university. His leadership lessons remind us that each of us has the power to make a mark on Madison and in our communities.

After Warner's talk, alumni made their way down to Godwin Field for Homecoming Headquarters, the official Homecoming tailgate. The free giveaways, live music and tailgating food helped set the mood and get everyone into the JMU spirit. Several affinity groups and the Classes of 1982, 1992, 1997, 2007 and 2012 celebrated milestone reunions during the tailgate.

The Dukes went on to beat New Hampshire 21-0 during the Homecoming football game.

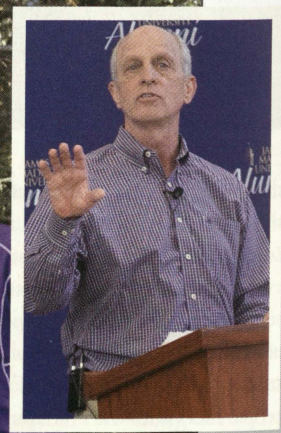
Homecoming 2017 brought together Dukes of past, present and future to celebrate the thing we all share in common—a love of JMU.

Are you celebrating a milestone reunion during Homecoming 2018? Visit alumni.jmu.edu/HC2018Reunions to submit your request.



Hear current students talk about Warner and his incredible mark on Madison at jmu/warner.

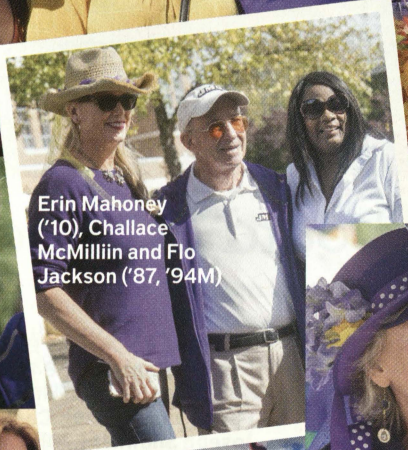
(L-R): Homecoming on Godwin Field; Duke Dog joins alumni at the 19th Annual Homecoming Golf Tournament; Senior Vice President Mark Warner presents *Lessons in Leadership*.



ALUMNI NEWS



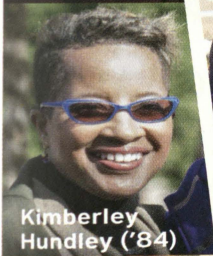
Casey Carter (center) greets friends at a reception for her Valley Scholars scholarship



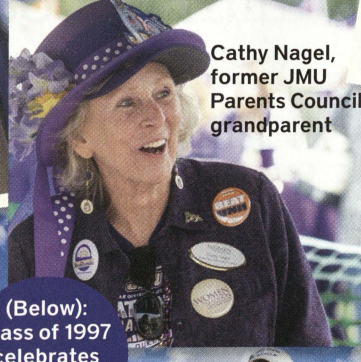
Erin Mahoney ('10), Challace McMillin and Flo Jackson ('87, '94M)



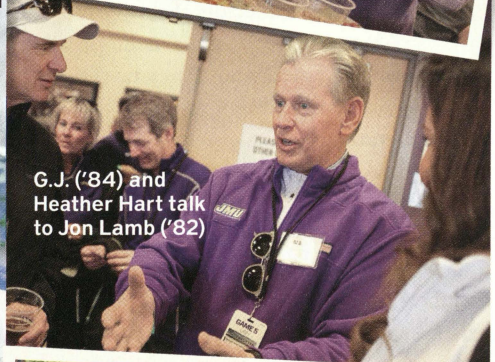
Sallie ('67) and Joe Funkhouser, former JMU Board of Visitors member



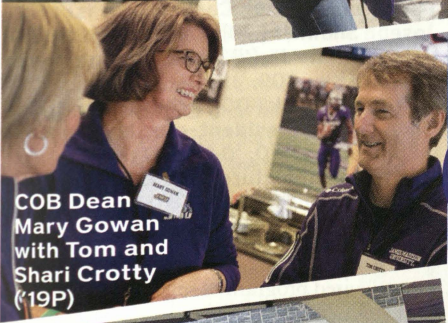
Kimberley Hundley ('84)



Cathy Nagel, former JMU Parents Council grandparent



G.J. ('84) and Heather Hart talk to Jon Lamb ('82)



COB Dean Mary Gowan with Tom and Shari Crotty ('19P)

(Below): Class of 1997 celebrates their 20th reunion



(Left): Alumni Association board member Chiquita King ('09, '11M)

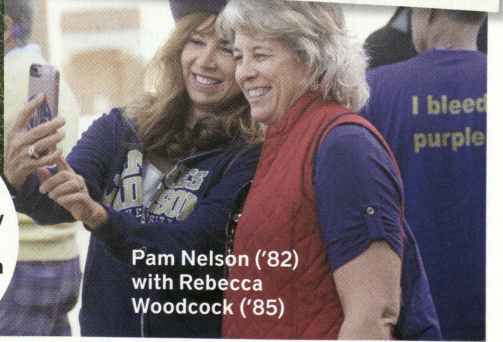


Beth Bliss ('84) with Women for Madison

#WomenforMadison



(Left): Class of 1982 Zeta Tau Alpha sorority sisters celebrate their 35th reunion with friends



Pam Nelson ('82) with Rebecca Woodcock ('85)