Our annual look at accessible, engaging professors; superior academics; study abroad; undergraduate research; internships; a focus on student success; volunteerism; engaged alumni — the enduring qualities of Madison.

INSIDE: A special pull-out section with JMU’s admission and application info.* Nine top students share their Madison Experiences from classroom and labs to martial arts in China. Five professors talk about creating enlightened citizens.*

PLUS: The Breeze staff shares the top 10 things to do and see in Harrisonburg.
It's Showtime!

Storytelling, music and movement brought giggles, squirming and glee on Aug. 5. It was apropos that the premiere public production in the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts welcomed the next generation of theater lovers to the region's top destination for performing arts. A packed audience of children and families watched the popular musical Miss Nelson is Missing. This marked the 50th production by the JMU Children's Playshop, founded and directed by Bill Buck. After the show, student performers signed autographs and answered curious fans' questions.
Choose Your Madison Experience

Ever wonder what a typical day is like in the life of a JMU student? Guess what? There is no one answer. At JMU, you choose your Madison Experience. In this special section, nine JMU students with majors as diverse as dance and biology talk about their one-on-one experiences with top professors and the multitude of extracurricular opportunities, from intramural sports to Student Ambassadors, Study Abroad and leading outreach programs for underrepresented youth.

Creating Enlightened Citizens by Brad Jenkins ('99)

One JMU professor lives with students in a freshman residence hall. Many professors give undergraduate students hands-on research and publishing opportunities. JMU alumni mentor students and hire other JMU graduates. Meet two professors and two alumni who prove that mentorship is a large part of the Madison Experience.

Special Admissions Insert

Everything you need to know to apply to JMU: Facts, figures, fun stats and a full listing of undergraduate programs. The Breeze staff brings you the “Top 10 things to do in Harrisonburg.” Plus, the JMU president’s and alumni’s favorite things about JMU. Beautiful photographs and more.
Madison

8 News JMU senior is tapped for national $10,000 Pearson Prize, JMU stewardship earns Virginia governor’s nod, JMU lauded for financial literacy, Ed McKee is counselor educator of the year, CIS grads honor professors, Bob Gordon’s 50 years at Madison, Pruden Scholar Katie Schweizer (’09, ’10M) and much more

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53 News Class of 2010 joins the alumni association, Black Alumni Chapter’s Mahogany Memoirs Ball, Be the Change blog, Miss Virginia’s purple reign, Dukes’ social media dialogue, Homecoming, Bluestone Reunions, Madison Alumni Conference and the Madison Events calendar

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Get connected: www.jmu.edu

TELL US ABOUT YOUR MADISON EXPERIENCE: What’s happening at JMU? What’s on your mind? Tell prospective students and alumni about your Madison Experience or share other JMU-related thoughts: www.facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity

VISIT JMU: Prospective students, JMU alumni, community members, JMU friends: Find it all here. The JMU events calendar, campus map, community news, area lodging and dining. Log on before you roll in to the ‘Burg: www.jmu.edu/jmuweb/visitor/

ALSO: Follow @JMUnews on Twitter. PARENTS: Visit www.jmu.edu/parents

Madison Magazine - Fall 2010
Your letters, stories and photos

PROFESSORS YOU LOVE

I instantly recognized one of the faces on the Spring/Summer 2010 Madison cover — Dr. Mark Warner. The article led me to the Professors You Love website and an article about him. I smiled when I saw the author had kept the “Life” business/wallet card that Dr. Warner had given her almost 15 years earlier. I still have mine, too. It’s made the journey from my JACard holder/key chain in the mid-1990s through all my wallet changes. While I’m certain that Dr. Warner does not remember me — I took only one of his classes my junior year — I remember him each time I open my wallet. I’m thankful for the life lessons he shared and that I still use today. Thank you, Dr. Warner.

Maia Dhokai Lucier ('97)
Reston, Va.

PROFESSORS LOVE US BACK

Thank you to the Madison team for the Professors You Love feature (Spring/Summer 2010 issue). I felt like a movie star receiving such wonderful kudos from family, friends and students. I have received calls and e-mail from around the country from former students sending words of congratulation, love and praise. Perhaps my favorite comments came from my grandson, Teddy, who was so obviously proud of his grandmother. I will always count “Professors You Love” as one of my greatest awards, and it is a huge highlight in my life.

Eileen Nelson
Professor Emerita of Psychology
Harrisonburg, Va.

PROUD PARENTS

We are the proud parents of not one, but two, JMU Dukes — Meagan Ouellette (’11), a nursing major, and Kaitlyn Ouellette (’13), a pre-nursing major. Both have worked hard in their respective studies and maintained high grade-point averages. They’ve also been very active in the JMU community as Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity members, as First-Year Orientation Guides (FROGS) and as women’s choir members. Our daughters also give back to the Harrisonburg community by volunteering at the SPCA, Salvation Army and Our Community Place. This family loves JMU! We’re looking forward to our youngest daughter, Erin, continuing the JMU family tradition — Class of 2016.

Brian and Stacey Ouellette (’11P, ’13P)
Yorktown, Va.

HELLO FROM AFGHANISTAN

Hello from Afghanistan. It’s awesome to read stories about JMU alumni through MadisonOnline’s Operation Purple Pride Web page. I graduated from JMU in 2007 and was commissioned through the Army ROTC program. I’m currently wrapping up a deployment in Afghanistan, and it has been quite an experience. I have met a few other JMU alumni here, which goes to show that it’s a small Army.

1st Lt. John T. O’Connell (’07)
Centreville, Va.
via e-mail from Afghanistan

BLUESTONE REUNION REVELRY

The 55th reunion of the Class of ’55 was a great experience for my husband, Bill, and me. He enjoyed it as much as I did. He got to meet some terrific husbands of my classmates. The food was excellent and well presented. Events were well organized, and JMU staff members were very hospitable to all of us. We were especially impressed with the campus and where the academic institution has come.

In the early years after my graduation, I used to have to explain where Madison College was and what it offered. Now, people have heard of JMU and know it’s excellent reputation! It’s a pleasure to watch my alma mater grow...
and influence the community — and the world.

Ruth Goewey Haase ('55)
Baldwinsville, N.Y.
Madison Founders Society

DISNEY DUKES
Despite the 98-plus degree heat in Orlando, Fla., during our trip to Disney World, I convinced my wife, Kim ('92), and daughter, Lindsay, to show JMU pride by sporting football jerseys. Madison pride at the Magic Kingdom. Go Dukes!

R.J. ('90) and Kim Blanchfield ('92)
South Riding, Va.

Keep those letters and story ideas coming! Madison welcomes letters in response to magazine content. The staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, length and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send to “22807” Madison, 220 University Blvd, MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, or e-mail madisonmag@jmu.edu.

GO DUKES!
We love attending JMU football games. The purple and gold streamers thrill me every time. Tailgating is a great way to meet other JMU parents and your child’s friends. Madison parents and students are so appreciative of the JMU-sponsored tailgate during the annual Family Weekend. We are the proud parents of new JMU alumna Sarah Bowling ('09), a health sciences major.

Mary Margaret and Bob Bowling ('09P)
Richmond, Va.

Editor’s Note

I’m glad to serve as guest editor for this issue of Madison, the issue that also goes to high-school students in the midst of their college searches. This is my opportunity to convey the excellence of a JMU education — and also to say hello to my fellow Madison alumni, now 100,000 strong!

I was a JMU student from 1977 to 1981. My undergraduate experience was second to none. I did it all. I was social. I was an athlete. My experience was total. I know other alumni share my experience.

My scholarly preparation at Madison was unparalleled. I am technically a systematic ichthyologist. I can thank JMU botany professor Norlyn Bodkin not only for my interest in biology, but also for my interest in systematics. He inspired me by his teaching, his enthusiasm and the care he took to cultivate me as a scientist. As a systematic ichthyologist, I’ve developed the same kind of taxonomic expertise for fish that Dr. Bodkin has for trees.

My education spurred me to pursue a doctorate, and now I am curator of fishes at the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum of Natural History. I conduct scientific research, discovering new fish species, and work with other scientists and naturalists around the world. I lead natural history trips for the public and increasingly look for opportunities to teach the public about marine science. I was honored to be the central scientist in the IMAX film Galapagos!

I tell you about my JMU experiences — not to brag — but because I want you to understand the high quality of the JMU academic program and that Madison’s threshold of excellence continues to be the norm. Throughout my career I’ve worked with scientists from other elite universities, and I can say without reserve that my education can go head to head with theirs. I often mentor up-and-coming scientists who have graduated from many schools. Read about my work with JMU graduate Zach Folz ('08) on Page 47. JMU alumni continue to graduate with something above and beyond excellent book knowledge. They have an edge borne of intense mentorship by faculty, undergraduate research opportunities, a bent toward collaboration and a desire to see good ideas succeed for the good of all.

I’m happy to help perpetuate the success of future JMU graduates and the Madison legacy that Norlyn Bodkin started with me.

— Carole Baldwin ('81), guest editor

Madison excellence

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Get all the information at www.jmu.edu/JMUarts

Mark your calendar for Forbes Center open houses:
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Oct. 2 Family Weekend
Oct. 16 Homecoming
Nov. 6 Community

www.jmu.edu/JMUarts

James Madison University

Editor’s Note: Courtesy of R.J. Blanchfield ('90); Forbes Center by Mike Miriello ('09M); Baldwin Photography by Matthew Worden
In collaboration with Madison magazine, 19 members of the 2009-10 Breeze staff helped write, edit, photograph and design a feature titled “Top 10 things to do and see in Harrisonburg” for the April 8, 2010, edition of The Breeze. The students’ feature is highlighted in this issue’s special insert, which also features photographs of the Harrisonburg area by alumni and local photographers. JMU’s student newspaper since 1922, The Breeze is published every Monday and Thursday during the academic year. It is available online for students, parents and alumni at http://breezejmu.org/.

Breeze staffers who worked on this feature are Katie Thisdell (11), editor-in-chief; Drew Beggs (12), managing editor; David Casterline (10), photographer; Michael Dimsy (11), sports editor; Rachel Dozier (12), design editor; Scott Einsmann (12), writer; Torie Foster (13), life editor; Ryan Freeland (13), photographer; Adrienne Goldberg (10), photographer; Dan Gorin (11), photographer; Ashley Grisham (13), photographer; Pamela Kidd (11), life editor; Cory Kuklick (10), writer; Jay Leamy (10), writer; Amber Logsdon (13), writer; Kristin McGregor (11), photo editor; John Sutter (11), news editor; Jake Thiewes (11), photographer; and Jeff Wade (13), writer.

Norm Shafer has worked as a photographer and photo editor in Virginia for 30 years. Last winter, he left his job as a photo editor/multimedia coordinator at The Virginian-Pilot to move to the Shenandoah Valley to get back to what he loves — telling stories with his camera. He also enjoys growing his own food. See Shafer’s photography of the local area in the special insert in this issue.

Allison Gould (’10) was among the first class of students inducted into JMU’s chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. She shares her Madison Experience with readers on Page 17. Gould graduated cum laude from the School of Media Arts and Design and interned in the JMU Office of Public Affairs in 2009–10. Currently, she is completing an internship with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This fall, she will enter American University to begin studies for a Master’s in Public Communication.

Kristen Egan (05, ’09M) is a senior admissions counselor from Perkasie, Pa. She graduated from the School of Media Arts and Design with a B.A. in corporate communication and earned an M.Ed. in JMU’s College Student Personnel Administration graduate program. Egan helped plan and proofread this issue of Madison, which is reaching alumni and friends, plus more than 80,000 prospective JMU students for the Class of 2015. While at JMU, Egan has worked with The Breeze, Community Service-Learning, Career and Academic Planning, the Office of International Programs, and the orientation team.

Nineteen members of The Breeze staff — including writers, photographers, editors and graphic designers — worked on the feature, “Top 10 things to do in Harrisonburg.” The Breeze feature is included in the admissions special pull-out section.
Choosing environmental stewardship

Environmental literacy and education are at the core of JMU’s mission

This time of year is my favorite in the life of JMU. As summer turns to fall, our incoming freshman class infuses us with new enthusiasm and hopefulness, and returning upperclassmen and faculty and staff members bring a renewed sense of dedication to their academic and life goals. It is an invigorating time on campus.

With this issue of Madison, I welcome high-school seniors and their parents who are conducting searches for the college or university that is the right fit for them. The stories by and about current JMU students, professors and alumni allow our graduates to reflect on their own Madison Experiences and reconnect to an expanding campus and academic program. I also trust they will show what life at JMU is like and hint at the unlimited possibilities of a JMU education today. As you can see, our students do it all. They are active and intelligent, and they seize opportunity. They double major and triple minor, play intramural sports and perform community service. They conduct research and join student organizations; they study abroad and participate in the arts.

It was just over a year ago when I introduced to you another important aspect of campus life that our students, professors and staff members have welcomed wholeheartedly — the university’s full-scale commitment to environmental stewardship.

As you might recall, we devoted the summer 2009 Madison to this initiative and JMU’s Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World, including an interview with director C.J. Brodrick Hartman. Read this issue online at www.jmu.edu/MadisonOnline.

At the time, I underscored that meaningful success would require a balanced and persistent commitment to environmental stewardship — a sustainable approach to sustainability, if you will. Over the past year we have been laying the critical groundwork by instituting policies that will change basic practices in our university lifestyle — how we renovate buildings and purchase supplies and consume energy and dispose of waste, for example. Making responsible choices and institutionalizing them will allow us to make an enduring impact on the world around us.

We have begun to implement change on an ambitious scale. Our campus goals for environmental stewardship are minimizing materials impact, emissions, toxins, solid waste and consumption; conserving, stewarding and restoring natural systems; and advancing environmental literacy and engagement through research, education and community programs.

In an area where there is a lot of noise about being green, JMU’s accomplishments are concrete and have not gone unnoticed. The university received the Governor’s Environmental Excellence Gold Award and was named in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 286 Green Colleges last three years.

JMU’s East Campus Dining Hall received Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (commonly known as LEED) gold-level certification. Three dining facilities have received Virginia Green restaurant certifications. The renovation of Wayland Hall represents JMU’s first use of geothermal energy. We have excavated and snaked pipe underground to allow the constancy of the earth’s temperature to help regulate the climate of this residence hall. Heating and cooling from that constant temperature require much less energy than doing so from atmospheric extremes.

Progress like this is possible because we have dug deep in an attempt to reorient the entire university. Environmental literacy is at the core of our mission to educate and enlighten students, and our academic life is the hub of that teaching. Thirty-two academic programs offer 287 courses that teach some element of environmental stewardship; additionally, there are 268 current or recent environmentally focused scholarly projects led by 103 professors. Many projects have occurred in international settings or nontraditional disciplines.

We also established the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research to support research and community outreach because our commitment to environmental stewardship doesn’t stop at the borders of campus. Similarly, the Madison Experience continues throughout life and can influence others as students graduate, become alumni and gain influence in the workplace and in their communities. I invite you to Choose Environmental Stewardship as a lifelong personal choice.

Linwood H. Rose
President
James Madison University
Senior tapped for Pearson Prize

*Helping others is Patrick Wiggins’s life goal*  
By Eric Gorton (‘86, ‘09M)

Patrick Wiggins (‘11) likes helping people who cannot help themselves, and he’s become quite good at it. So good, in fact, that the Pearson Foundation is giving Wiggins a $10,000 scholarship. Wiggins is one of 20 students nationwide, and the only one from Virginia, to be awarded the scholarship that recognizes students for their leadership and community service. More than 10,000 students applied for the scholarship.

The Pearson Foundation is the nonprofit arm of Pearson, an international media company with 37,000 employees in more than 60 countries.

Wiggins is a biology major who wants to become a physician. On Aug. 4–6, he joined the other Pearson Prize winners at the Pearson Student Leadership Summit in Boston. The scholarship provides $5,000 for this school year, and Wiggins will be eligible next fall for another $5,000, which he can use for graduate school.

The Richmond, Va., native says he thinks the scholarship award committee was particularly impressed with his efforts at organizing a weeklong shelter for homeless people in Harrisonburg last spring. Representatives from eight campus organizations hosted the homeless at the JMU Catholic Campus Ministry. The groups provided meals, companionship and laundry services. Wiggins spent a year organizing the week, signing up volunteers and assigning duties. The only time he spent away from the shelter that week was to attend class, and he had three exams.

Wiggins calls this his “greatest accomplishment.” It’s easy to get “trapped in the college atmosphere,” he adds. “This served as a way to step out of our bubble and see poverty first-hand. The level of empathy increased so much.”

Wiggins had to write four 700-word essays in the first round of the Pearson Prize application process. For the second round, he had to produce a two-minute video about why he should get the award and post it on YouTube.

The shelter project was far from being Wiggins’ first foray into community service. He spends part of every Tuesday interpreting Spanish at the Harrisonburg Free Clinic and works on Wednesdays in the soup kitchen at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. His parents introduced him to community service at age 7, taking him to work in a Richmond soup kitchen. “I love being able to help people who have trouble helping themselves,” says Wiggins.

* Check out Patrick Wiggins’ video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKYaJIPWHcA&feature=player_embedded.
JMU lauded for financial literacy

Business professors teach students to manage financial lives

By Paula Polglase ('92, '96M)

Raise your hand if you know how to balance your checkbook. Early in Cathy Snyder’s GBUS160 course each semester she asks this question. While the response is affirmative from an overwhelming majority of JMU students, it’s the follow-up questions that have Snyder troubled. “When I ask how many know how to balance their account, actually do balance the account, and understand why it’s important — I have about 5 percent of those hands still in the air.”

Snyder finds many freshmen unprepared to make personal financial management decisions. After surveying her students, she found that most of the students sampled had no role in helping to finance their higher education. “I think by virtue of not being exposed to money management pressures or being financially invested in their own education, conversations about financial responsibility have seldom, if ever, been initiated,” she says.

Snyder and colleague Ron Cereola have taught GBUS160: Business Decision Making in a Modern Society to approximately 1,500 students each year for 12 years. Based on student feedback they have reworked the course to incorporate real-life, decision-making scenarios that students will face as adults. Students create a personal budget, understand and analyze the stock market, research consumer cars and loans and look at the impact of charitable giving on tax returns.

Student response has been overwhelmingly positive. “We have students who are still e-mailing us and thanking us for offering a course that was so useful,” says Snyder.

The National Student Loan Program agrees. The organization presented JMU with the 2010 Financial Literacy Leadership Award, which recognizes higher education institutions that provide outstanding financial literacy education to their students.

Brad Barnett, JMU senior associate director for financial aid and scholarships, is also passionate about increasing students’ financial literacy. “We spend so much time teaching students how to have a career — we should also teach them how to manage their financial lives so they can be successful in their careers,” he says.

Creating a budget, balancing a checkbook and managing credit card debt are all areas that Barnett thinks need to be emphasized before and during college. Collaborating with the College of Business, the JMU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships offers workshops throughout the year that focus on building these life skills.

‘We have students who are still e-mailing us and thanking us for offering a course that was so useful.’ — Cathy Snyder

JMU’s commitment to becoming a model steward of the natural world was recognized with a Governor’s Environmental Excellence Award at the 2010 Environment Virginia Symposium.

The awards recognize significant contributions by environmental and conservation leaders in three categories: environmental projects, environmental programs and land conservation. The awards are given to businesses and industrial facilities, not-for-profit organizations, government agencies and individuals. JMU was one of four gold medal winners in the state. JMU was recognized for the successes of the Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World. The institute began in 2006 and includes a 100-member citizens council. Directed by Christie-Joy Brodrick Hartman, the institute has adopted environmental policies in six areas: water, air, materials/waste, energy, environmental literacy education, and citizen attitudes and behavior. An emissions inventory, campus energy assessment and draft strategic environmental plan have also been developed.

By the end of 2010, the university expects to reduce its water use by 2.5 million gallons and eliminate the generation of 3,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions.

Other successes include increasing the campus recycling rate to 34 percent, expanding environmentally-oriented academic offerings in 10 disciplines and increasing the use of alternative transportation by an average of 7 percent annually.

* Learn more about JMU’s environmental stewardship efforts at www.jmu.edu/stewardship/.

Financial aid’s Brad Barnett says it’s importance to teach students financial independence.
[Educator of the Year]

Ed McKee is 2010 Counselor Educator of the Year

The Virginia School Counselor Association named counseling professor J. Edson “Ed” McKee the 2010 Counselor Educator of the Year. McKee, who teaches counseling in the JMU graduate program, received the award at the VSCA annual conference in Williamsburg. Since 1973, McKee has been involved in historic developments that have affected the counseling field at both the state and national levels. Along with counseling professor Carl Swanson, McKee transformed JMU’s fledgling guidance and counseling program into a comprehensive counselor education program by revamping the entire curriculum and adding courses. McKee helped the JMU program become one of the first programs in the country to be accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs in 1980. “Throughout his career, Ed has taught demanding courses that stimulate beginning students to not only develop their counseling skills, but to also examine and explore themselves,” says Lennis Echterling, master’s program counseling professor. “Ed quietly, respectfully and deftly challenges students to achieve their potential. Because of his many contributions, JMU has enjoyed a fine reputation for preparing caring, competent and committed counselors. He embodies the personal characteristics of the ideal counselor educator — a consummate teacher, inquisitive scholar and steadfast promoter of counseling.”

[Mark of Excellence]

Breeze editor and Curio take top awards

The Society of Professional Journalists also honored Curio magazine as a finalist for best student magazine in the nation. The JMU student-run magazine is the product of a feature-production class in the School of Media Arts and Design. Founded in 1978 by SMAD professor David Wendelken, Curio features the people and places of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County. Northwestern University took the top prize in the student magazine category, and Syracuse University joined JMU as the other finalist. Chapman and Curio were the only nominees from Virginia to receive awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. The national competition drew more than 3,600 entries this year.

* See all JMU student publications at http://smad.jmu.edu.
The Princeton Review named JMU one of the country’s most environmentally responsible colleges in its first Guide to 286 Green Colleges. The guide does not rank schools, but it provides a resource for students seeking colleges committed to environmental stewardship. In its “Green Highlights” about JMU, the guide notes the JMU Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World. The institute’s efforts have led to a campus farmer’s market, JMU’s first LEED gold certification for the East Campus Dining Hall, a transportation program in which 100 percent of vehicles are alternative fuel operating, and a reduction in campus water use of 2.5 million gallons.

JMU’s Debate Union will host a 2010 Homecoming alumni event commemorating the 100th anniversary of the first public debate held at Madison in 1910. This year’s expansion of the Madison Cup, in which 36 teams competed in 2010, as well as the team’s outreach to area high schools. Four JMU debaters were named 2010 National Debate Scholars, placing them among the top 30 debaters in the nation.

JMU’s Alternative Break Program is the 2010 Break Away National Program of the Year. This year’s award recognizes the university’s commitment to active citizenship. In the 2009–10 academic year, 569 participants volunteered in 45 trips — five during Thanksgiving, 39 at Spring Break and one large Hurricane Katrina Relief in May. “JMU students are active citizens who believe in taking small steps to make the world a better place,” says Dusty M. Krikau, assistant director of JMU Community Service-Learning. *Learn more at www.jmu.edu/service.

In May, 100 JMU students traveled to Louisiana to assist with Katrina Relief efforts at Camp Hope. Students focused on fund raising, rebuilding and pet rescue.

In May, 100 JMU students traveled to Louisiana to assist with Katrina Relief efforts at Camp Hope. Students focused on fund raising, rebuilding and pet rescue.

Florence, S.C., represented Madison at the inauguration of Coker College’s 16th president Robert Wyatt. “It was an honor to represent JMU,” says Ferguson. (Read more on Page 60.)

11 alumni represented JMU President Linwood H. Rose at university inaugurations across the nation. On March 26, Gregg Ferguson (’80) of Florence, S.C., represented Madison at the inauguration of Coker College’s 16th president Robert Wyatt. “It was an honor to represent JMU,” says Ferguson. (Read more on Page 60.)

Continued connections: One hundred former professors — 33 percent of the JMU Faculty Emeriti Association — made a gift to JMU in 2009–10.

Low Key, JMU’s coed a cappella group, is 10 years old. The group celebrated by releasing a new album titled Key Change. The group is a fan favorite at Homecoming. *Check them out at www.facebook.com/jmulowkey.

On behalf of JMU, Gregg Ferguson (’80), right, congratulates Coker College’s 16th president Robert Wyatt.
JMU’s award winning CyberCity program welcomed 40 underrepresented area teens to campus in June to learn about careers in the field of computer information systems. This JMU College of Business program gives ninth- and 10th-graders a taste of college life. *Learn more at www.jmu.edu/news/.

JMU ranks 21st in Kiplinger’s Personal Finance’s 2010 list of “100 Best Values in Public Colleges.”

CyberCity is a hands-on lab-based computer technology program for students to explore cutting edge technology. (Right): Mike Battle, president of BRMI consulting, talks to students.

Jemmy goes digital! President James Madison’s papers are being added to the University of Virginia’s digital collection of Founding Fathers’ documents. Seventeen print volumes of Madison’s papers are available on the U.Va. Press Rotunda website. Madison’s papers include letters, essays, account books, diaries and legal documents. *See the collection at http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/JSMN.html.

JMU employees care: The Employee Giving Campaign had its most successful participation year to date in 2009–10. Twenty-nine percent of employees made a gift to JMU. “University employees care about our community and are generous with attention to students,” says Jini Cook, co-chair of the employee giving committee. *Learn more at www.jmu.edu/employeegiving.

From the academic year 1990–91 to 2008–09, JMU grew from 11,200 full-time students to 18,225. During the same period, yearly data from the JMU Office of Institutional Research reveals that student satisfaction for “JMU shows concern for me as an individual” rose from 67 to 73 percent.

JMU’s 2009–10 freshman retention rate is 92 percent. *See more JMU facts and figures and student life stats at www.jmu.edu/instresrch.

In 2010, the JMU community raised $123,837 for Relay for Life, which supports the American Cancer Society. More than 1,800 students participated in JMU’s annual relay effort.

Walking in a beautiful setting for a beautiful cause. More than 1,800 JMU students raised funds for Relay for Life.
Grad students share research with politicos and academics

Seven JMU graduate students shared their research with faculty members and graduate students from 13 member schools of the Virginia Council of Graduate Schools at its Fifth-Annual Graduate Student Research Forum during spring semester. The Library of Virginia in Richmond hosted the forum, where 60 graduate students presented research for members of the Virginia General Assembly, industry representatives, and faculty and administrators from across the Commonwealth.

Though graduate students enrolled in Virginia colleges and universities come from every state in the nation and dozens of countries around the world, approximately 70 percent of these graduate students remain in Virginia after graduation.

The purpose of the VCG forum is to showcase graduate student research and scholarship across the Commonwealth of Virginia and to highlight the benefits of graduate education to the economic, social, and civic development of the commonwealth.

JMU graduate student participants were Lindsey Mayberry, James Koepfler and Ellyn Leighton-Hermann (master’s degree students in psychological sciences); Allison Titus and Tennille Handy (master’s degree students in occupational therapy); and Chris Orem and Javarro Russell (doctoral students in assessment and measurement).

Blake Mycoskie, the founder and “chief shoes giver” of TOMS Shoes Inc., spoke to graduating seniors at the Senior Convocation Thursday night before the Saturday, May 8, commencement exercises. He shared his company’s successful One for One business model: For every pair of shoes sold, TOMS Shoes gives a pair of new shoes to a child in need.

About 450 students received master’s degrees on May 7 in the Convocation Center. Nine students earned educational specialist degrees and 15 students received doctoral degrees. More than 3,200 undergraduates received their degrees in six college ceremonies.

The nursing department and ROTC also held special ceremonies. Fifty-seven nursing students participated in a traditional pinning ceremony.

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Evening classes meet once a week and are tailored to working professionals. The JMU M.B.A. program is fully accredited by the AACSB, the only nationally recognized business school accrediting body.

Information Security M.B.A.
A nationally ranked part-time online program. Class meets virtually online weekly and once per eight weeks in Reston, Va. AACSB accredited, NSA certified.

― Henry Bromley III, M.B.A., PMP, federal agency cyber security professional, Booz Allen Hamilton
[Golden Memories]

Bob Gordon
honored for 50 years at JMU

Colleagues and former students laud professor

By Jacquelyn Walsh ('09)

Safety officer, master teacher, author, researcher. These are a few of the many jobs Bob Gordon has performed during his 50-year — and counting — career at JMU.

Physics and astronomy professors, staff colleagues and former students gathered in the Festival Conference and Student Center Ballroom in April to express their gratitude for Gordon’s extensive career.

Jon Staib, a friend and colleague of Gordon’s for 40 years, opened the reception by reviewing the different roles Gordon has played, the most admirable role being “Bob, the department head who had valuable leadership skills.” Staib taught in the department until 1997.

“Fifty years at JMU, that’s quite a record,” added Staib. “It’s pretty long, but it’s pretty exceptional, too … I paused to listen outside your classroom door on a number of occasions. Your teaching is well reasoned and complete.”

Gordon’s teaching methods and relationships with students were further emphasized when one of his former students took the podium. Marty Moran (’84) recalled Gordon’s advice: “As long as you care about what you’re doing, that’s the most important thing.” Gordon and Moran continue to stay in touch as Moran’s family grows.

JMU Physics and Astronomy Department Head Steve Whisnant filled in when Bob semi-retired in 2001. “He’s never really retired,” explained Whisnant, “and we are so glad he continues to teach.”

Numerous attendees showed their gratitude and admiration for Gordon, greeting him and sharing a few words. “Fifty years at JMU, a record that is long but also impressive,” said one. Another asked, “What prepares a person to spend 50 years in the trenches of academia?” A few shared stories of Gordon’s time growing up in East Rockingham County. One explained his “great combination of smarts, diplomacy and speed.”

The J. Robert Gordon Scholarship honors Gordon’s long career and his contributions to JMU. Established by gifts from Walter Curt (’85) of SEI Inc. and Raymond Serway, department head of physics and astronomy from 1980 to 1986, the annual $1,500 scholarship award is given to a freshman with a declared major in physics.

As coworkers, friends and former students exited the Festival ballroom, they filled a guest book with good luck wishes and long notes of appreciation. “Bob Gordon is exactly what universities need more of,” Staib said. “Imagine a university full of Bob Gordons! What a perfect place.”

‘As long as you care about what you’re doing, that’s the most important thing.’
— Marty Moran (’84), recalling Gordon’s advice

[In Memoriam]

Remembering William “Bill” Anderson

Former JMU professor of accounting William “Bill” Tharp Anderson of Harrisonburg died on May 29, 2010. Anderson was a U.S. Navy veteran, joining in 1957 and serving as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Naval Air Force until 1962. He served as assistant dean of The McIntyre School of Commerce at the University of Virginia, where he earned his undergraduate and master’s degrees. He earned his Ph.D. in accounting from Virginia Tech. He served on the faculties of JMU, Liberty University and Grove City College. His wife, Dorothy Sheets Anderson, is a member of the JMU Class of 1959.

Madison

THANKS ALUMNI & FRIENDS!

Thank you to the 3,475 alumni and JMU friends who contributed $406,945 to the Madison for Keeps initiative. If not for you, 107 students would not have finished their spring semester.

That’s 107 bright minds who were able to continue their journey of becoming teachers, computer scientists, musicians, business owners, mathematicians — young men and women who will someday change the world. Sixteen of these students graduated in May.

MADISON FOR KEEPS is just one example of how your annual support truly makes a difference at JMU.

www.jmu.edu/madison4keeps/
JMU has more than 15,800 Facebook fans, 2,000 Twitter followers, 6,500 LinkedIn members and more than 23,500 YouTube channel views.

Are you plugged in?

VISIT JMU VIA:
- www.facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity
- www.twitter.com/JMUnews
- www.youtube.com/DukeDogTV
- www.linkedin.com (search James Madison University Alumni Association)

James Madison University Flickr pool
Haven’t been back to campus in a while? Check out JMU’s Flickr pool — it’s just like being in the ‘Burg! Comment on JMU photos or upload your own. *www.flickr.com/groups/1132487@N22/pool/

A Madison Experience in Florence, Italy
Studio art major Angel America Elza (’10) lived, studied and soaked up Italian culture through the Semester in Florence Study Abroad program last fall. In addition to sharing hundreds of photographs, she also wrote a blog. Learn why she fell in love with Italy at *www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/my-semester-in-Florence.shtml

twitter.com/JMUnews
More than 2,000 Dukes are tweeting about their favorite JMU topics: JMU’s new Phi Beta Kappa chapter, updates on the football stadium. What’s on your mind? *Follow at twitter.com/JMUnews

Facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity
Tell us about your Madison Experience and plug into other conversations. The latest topics have focused on Alternative Spring Breaks and high-school seniors choosing JMU for their final college choice. *facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity
Alumni, share your chapter news and learn more about the alumni association. *facebook.com/JMUAlumni

A world of opportunity
Madison alumni know there is nothing like seeing the JMU campus with your own eyes. Prospective students: Plan your campus visit today. Schedule your trip to coincide with a concert, lecture or athletics match-up by viewing the events calendar online, and sign up for a student-led tour at *www.jmu.edu/admissions/visit/

Alumni Online
Join the JMU Alumni Online Community and create a Purple Pages listing to promote your product or service to fellow alumni, submit a Class Note, register for alumni events, follow JMU chapters, create your own social network, plan your Homecoming visit and more. *www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/JMD/yp.html
**Be the Change**

**Changing the world begins in the classroom**

*Pruden Scholar Katie Schwizer paves way for future leaders*

BY TYLER McAVOY (‘12)

As students rushed to the front of the classroom, Katie Schwizer (‘09, ‘10M) second guessed her decision. The middle-school aged students fought to get their hands on the valuables that lay before them: a pile of books, donated by JMU alumni and staff members. While teaching during her Study Abroad in South Africa, Schwizer set the books in front of the class. She didn’t expect such a reaction.

“We immediately regretted our decision as our students ran to the front, pushing and shoving to get a book that was a prize possession to them,” says Schwizer. “They reminded me just how valuable education is in our world.”

The students’ reactions fueled the passion that Schwizer already had for education. At an early age, she dreamed of becoming an educator, practicing her poise in front of an imaginary classroom with stuffed animals as students. “Over the years, my bedroom actually transformed into a high-tech classroom, equipped with an overhead projector, marker board, podium and all of the other necessities to teach my ‘students,’” recalls Schwizer.

Yet, it is also Schwizer’s goal-driven philosophy and mature outlook that lead to her selection as a JMU Pruden Scholar. Established in 2002 by a generous donation by the late Peter and Phyllis Pruden, the Pruden Scholarship provides full tuition for an outstanding individual interested in pursuing a career in early elementary education.

Schwizer believes much of her experience, both in the states and abroad, is due to the award. “Katie is the most outstanding young woman I think I’ve had the privilege of working with in 30 years,” says Peggy Shaeffer, associate dean of the College of Education. “She’s a young woman with a future.”

Now a fourth-grade teacher at Berkeley Glenn Elementary School in Waynesboro, Va., Schwizer has taken much from her Study Abroad teaching experience in South Africa. It has affirmed the importance of an education and being an educator: “It’s my responsibility to pave the way for our future leaders,” she says. “My students will one day grow up and succeed in our world because of what they have learned in my classroom.”

*Learn more about JMU College of Education scholarships at www.jmu.edu/coe/eere/Scholarships.shtml.*

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**Create a lasting legacy at Madison**

The late *Mary Spitzer Etter* (‘34) was there when Wilson Hall first opened in 1931. And when Madison opened the new Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, Etter — teacher, choir member, JMU Alumni Association president and community leader — was there in spirit. Etter established a charitable remainder trust that provides scholarships for music performance and education majors. Her generosity is a legacy that will last in perpetuity.

Your chance to leave an indelible mark on JMU is just a phone call away.

Contact Susan Fersner in the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 296-6162 or giftplanning@jmu.edu for more information on charitable remainder trusts, which allow you to both provide for JMU and receive a lifetime income.
I cannot count how many late nights I’ve spent in the library during the last four years or how many times I have asked professors to talk about my projects and papers. When I received my invitation to become an inaugural member of JMU’s chapter of Phi Beta Kappa I was surprised, overjoyed that hard work pays off and also a little bit proud. It was like seeing a semester of hard work pay off, but on a much grander scale. I was recognized with 134 of my peers for our dedication to excellence. Our induction into JMU’s inaugural Phi Beta Kappa class is not just about recognizing academic achievements, but it’s also about our commitment to preparing for the future.

My Madison experience has helped me prepare for a successful, enlightened and open-minded lifetime of learning. In the coming years, many more students will make the pledge and commitment to uphold the principles of Phi Beta Kappa. When the national Phi Beta Kappa Society announced its decision to invite JMU to charter its own chapter in October 2009, JMU Provost Douglas Brown said, “If you look at landmark events in the university’s history, this is one of them.” Only about 10 percent of American institutions are invited to join the elite company of Phi Beta Kappa societies, so I am extremely proud to be part of this legacy.

During my four years at JMU, I valued every opportunity to expand my horizons and soak up knowledge. My commitment to embracing learning and keeping an open mind has definitely shaped my Madison experience. I came in freshman year as a media arts and design major, and then decided to add a Spanish major and a minor in political communications. When people ask me how I have managed a double major and minor, I just smile and say, “I love to learn.” That’s one of the reasons that I did an Alternative spring Break to help build a children’s camp in Redwoods National Park. We did everything from clearing new hiking trails with machetes to building bridges and planting ferns. The trip was definitely geared toward environmental preservation, but it was rewarding to know my hard work would be enjoyed by summer campers. I learned how incredible nature is and the importance of appreciating our forests. Service, lifetime learning, trying new things — they are all part of the Madison Experience.

‘Love of learning is the guide of life. JMU’s mission aligns closely with Phi Beta Kappa’s goals.’
— Charles Blake, JMU Phi Beta Kappa chapter president

About the Author Allison Gould (’10) interned in the JMU Office of Public Affairs during spring semester 2010. Currently, she is completing an internship with the U.S. Forest Service. This fall, she will enter American University to begin studies for a Master’s in Public Communication. She looks forward to becoming an active member in the Phi Beta Kappa chapter in Washington, D.C.

When my classmates and I were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the JMU chapter president Charles Blake, a political science professor, noted one of Phi Beta Kappa’s principles, “Love of learning is the guide of life.” He continued, “JMU’s mission aligns closely with Phi Beta Kappa’s goals. Reasoned inquiry and heartfelt exploration are central to JMU’s efforts to help students become educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives.”

More than 40 JMU professors are Phi Beta Kappa members. It was an honor to join them in JMU’s chapter. For the past four years I have considered myself a student who is always eagerly seeking more knowledge, and I know that my education will continue for the rest of my life.

As I walked up on stage to sign my name on the first pages of the Phi Beta Kappa membership book, I caught a glimpse of my parents in the audience. Their continued confidence and faith in my abilities have instilled in me a strong sense of dedication and responsibility. Thank you Mom and Dad for giving me the encouragement I needed to succeed. I graduated from JMU in May, not only with a bachelor’s degree, but also with a filled sense of accomplishment and the desire to embrace every new experience.

* Learn more about JMU’s inaugural Phi Beta Kappa class at [www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/PBKchapter.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/PBKchapter.shtml).
Sept. 4, 2010, marks a new era in JMU athletics history when Bridgeforth Stadium, home of the football Dukes, opens its gates after the first phase of expansion, allowing alumni, friends and fans to gather and make lasting memories. Excitement around the football program has been building for many years and is giving alumni a reason to reconnect with the university.

Donna Harper (’77, ’81M, ’86Ed.S), a former student-athlete and current executive assistant to JMU President Linwood H. Rose, feels the momentum building. “The new stadium creates a wonderful element of excitement and anticipation for JMU sports,” she says. “The opportunity to support athletics through membership in the Duke Club and attending games strengthens our commitment to student-athletes — their success and learning — and our commitment to JMU, so students might have the best education and experience.”

Bridgeforth Stadium and Zane Showker Field is one of the premier facilities in the Football Championship Subdivision. In 2010, fans will be treated to an elevated main concourse, which includes additional restrooms, easier access to concessions, a new merchandise area and an overall improved fan experience for game days. The new grandstand was erected 40 feet closer to the field of play, providing a better view of the action for all.

At the conclusion of the season, the expansion will move full steam ahead to add an additional 10,000 seats above the existing structure on the west side. For fans looking to experience the ultimate luxuries, the club level will feature an 8,000-square-feet climate-controlled club lounge with access to high-end food and beverages. Club seat holders will have exclusive access to the club lounge, and seats are being reserved now for the 2011 season. (See Page 71).

Don Parr (’84) adds, “There is no question that the whole game-day experience with the club room and club seats will be the ultimate experience for many Dukes fans. JMU can now offer a wider range of experiences to accommodate those fans who want a higher-end package.”

Finally, the suite level will feature a private game experience with indoor and outdoor viewing capabilities along with full hospitality and catering for each suite.

With all of the upgrades to Bridgeforth Stadium, coming to a game will still be affordable for all. Michael Carpenter, assistant athletics director for tickets and customer relations, says, “The expansion of Bridgeforth is going to allow more fans to experience high-level college football in a top-notch venue. We’re excited to offer a full variety of season-ticket packages for any budget. Options range from affordable family-plan packages to club seating with full hospitality. Season tickets include some great incentives for folks who reserve by Dec. 31, 2010.”

Alumni support for athletics does not go unnoticed, especially in the eyes of Coach Mickey Matthews. “I look forward to the JMU fans rallying around the expansion of Bridgeforth Stadium and filling the seats in 2010, 2011 and the years to come. The JMU Nation has something to really be proud of, and our team feeds off the enthusiasm of our loyal fans.”

* Prepare to join 25,000 fellow fans each week to cheer the Dukes to victory. Get your tickets now at JMUSports.com.
2010 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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<td>SEPT. 4</td>
<td>vs. Morehead State</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
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<td>SEPT. 11</td>
<td>at Virginia Tech</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPT. 25</td>
<td>vs. Liberty</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
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<td>OCT. 2</td>
<td>vs. Delaware* (Family Weekend)</td>
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<td>OCT. 9</td>
<td>at Towson*</td>
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<td>OCT. 16</td>
<td>vs. New Hampshire*</td>
<td>(Homecoming) 3:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>OCT. 23</td>
<td>(Homecoming)</td>
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<td>OCT. 30</td>
<td>vs. Massachusetts*</td>
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<td>NOV. 6</td>
<td>at Richmond*</td>
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<td>NOV. 13</td>
<td>vs. William &amp; Mary*</td>
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<td>NOV. 20</td>
<td>at Maine* TBA</td>
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<td>NOV. 27–DEC. 18</td>
<td>NCAA Playoffs TBA</td>
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<td>JAN. 7</td>
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Check JMUSports.com for the most up-to-date times and information on the Duke Club, tailgating and parking.

See Page 71 for more on club seating. Check out video, audio, live broadcasts and more online in the MadiZONE.

*Conference games

7-time champs!
Lacrosse team takes 2010 CAA title
By Michelle Hite ('88)

The JMU women’s lacrosse team won its seventh Colonial Athletics Association Championship in May.

The team entered the NCAA Division I tournament ranked seventh and made it to the quarterfinals. JMU lost to 10th-ranked Syracuse 7-3 at the JMU Lacrosse Complex. The Dukes ended their season 17-3 with two school records — 17 wins and an .850 winning percentage.

The Dukes quarterfinal appearances started off well, but rain brought a 23-minute halftime delay and a gloomy second half. Leading at halftime 3-2, the Orange outscored JMU 5-0 in the second half.

This summer, JMU lacrosse coach Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe and three of her players participated in the North-South Senior All-Star Game. Klaes-Bawcombe coached the South Team to a 7-4 win, and the team included JMU players Kim Griffin, Morgan Kelly and Susan Lines.

The Virginia Sports Information Directors’ Association named Klaes-Bawcombe the 2010 Coach of the Year. VaSID also named Casey Ancarrow its Rookie of the Year. She also received CAA Rookie of the Year honors. Five JMU players were named to the VaSID all-state team. Four received first team honors — Cally Chakrian, Kim Griffin, Morgan Kelly and Mary Kate Lomady. Ancarrow and Susan Lines were named to the second team.

Diamond Dukes No. 1
Baseball team earns top seed in CAA

Coach Spanky McFarland was named the CAA Co-Coach of the Year after leading the Dukes to a 30-23 overall mark. JMU went 18-6 in the CAA, winning all eight league series games, to capture its third regular-season title under McFarland. It was McFarland’s eighth 30-win season in 13 years. He also won his 400th game with JMU on May 18 at East Carolina to improve to 403-330-2 (.550) in his career with the Dukes.

JMU played 35 of its 53 games on the road to post the 80th-toughest “strength of schedule” stat in the nation. The Dukes went 15-3 at home, and the average of 795 fans per game was tops in the CAA. A total of 1,815 fans attending the March 17 game against top-ranked Virginia shattered the previous single-game attendance record of 895.

McFarland had the 65th pitcher of his coaching career sign an MLB contract as closer Kevin Munson of Roanoke was drafted in the fourth round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by the Arizona Diamondbacks. Munson is the 2010 CAA Pitcher of the Year, an All-American, JMU’s saves record holder, and possessor of the fourth-best career ERA (2.35) in CAA history.

With three total players drafted in 2010, McFarland has now had 22 draft picks and 32 players sign a professional contract in his 13 JMU seasons. In addition to Munson’s honors, the Dukes had 11 total awards, the most in program history, among 2010 CAA postseason honors.

In June, closer Kevin Munson, first baseman Trevor Knight and outfielder Matt Browning represented JMU on the VaSID University Division All-State Baseball Team. Munson and Knight were first team selections in the university division, comprising all NCAA Division I institutions in Virginia. Browning was named to the second team. Knight was First Team All-CAA and the Seattle Mariners’ 43rd-round draft pick after a stellar season. He set JMU’s career doubles record with 67.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CATHY KUSHNER (’87)
A hot air balloon over Cappadocia
Spice bazaars, Turkish knots and class credits

By Caitlin Harrison ('10)

When I first received an e-mail about JMU’s Study Abroad trip to Istanbul, Turkey, I didn’t think twice about deleting it. I had already studied abroad in summer 2008, and I had never considered studying abroad twice. A few weeks later, I got another e-mail about the program. This time, I scanned the text to learn more. I found out that the program was two weeks long, which was perfect to earn three class credits and still be able to work during the summer.

Six days after getting home from spring semester 2009, I left for a fantastic excursion around Istanbul, Turkey, and Greece.

The JMU Study Abroad in Turkey and Greece program is different from other programs because students participate with peers from another school. There were eight JMU students and 10 students from the University of Alabama who made up our study group. Mert Tokman, a JMU marketing professor and director of JMU’s program in Turkey, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Alabama. With his connections, he made the trip available for students at both universities.

This Study Abroad trip is also different because, although the courses examine international marketing, the trip is not limited to business and marketing majors. A handful of JMU participants were sports marketing minors; the rest of us had varying majors.

About the Author
A School of Media Arts and Design graduate, Caitlin Harrison ('10) concentrated in journalism and minored in film studies. During her senior year, she interned with Madison magazine. She hopes to pursue a magazine-related editorial career that will allow her to travel the world. Harrison wrote for the Bluestone during her sophomore and junior years and was a co-producer her senior year. She completed an Alternative Spring Break in 2008 and was an active member of SafeRide and Delta Gamma.
I signed up for the Principles of Marketing class in Turkey because I thought it complemented my print journalism classes. Participants from both universities formed small study groups, and we were asked to write a business plan for a product that we would hypothetically import from America to Turkey. We researched payment methods, manufacturing methods and target audiences. Coming from a background in writing news stories and designing publication pages, the class and business plan were a challenge for me. While I had to spend the whole week after our trip finalizing my business plan, I think my Study Abroad in Turkey and this marketing class enhanced my overall Madison Experience.

Outside the classroom, we were blessed with many strange and unusual opportunities to experience Turkey’s culture. I ate raw meatballs and tried plain yogurt as a condiment — even when I thought it wouldn’t exactly complement the meal. I got a traditional Turkish bath and bargained with Turks over the price of saffron at the spice bazaar. I rode on camels with JMU and UA students, attended an Istanbul soccer game and visited the house of the Virgin Mary. I even learned how to make Turkish knots and added a few to a Turkish rug — something only women are allowed to do in Turkey.

One of the most memorable experiences from this trip was an hour-long hot air balloon ride over the stone city of Cappadocia. The balloon ride was an added option to our trip, and we had to get up at 6 a.m., but I knew it was something I had to try! I’m not sure how high we flew, but my aerial photos from the highest altitudes look more like maps than actual photos.

Nearly every day of our two-week trip to Turkey was jam-packed with interesting cultural activities. During one of the two slower days, I took a ferry ride with a few members of the group to the Greek island of Samos. We rented two cars and drove around Samos to find the only sand beach on the entire island. It was so serene and beautiful.

I had traveled outside the United States before my trip to Istanbul, but in most of the other countries I visited, English was either widely spoken or comprehended. Being in Istanbul was a completely foreign experience linguistically and culturally, and I learned a lot. Most of the people did not speak English. The cultural and religious customs were exciting; the food was exotic, and being there was a great experience. I can’t wait to go back.

‘Outside the classroom, we were blessed with many strange and unusual opportunities to experience Turkish culture.’ — Caitlin Harrison (’10)

The professors, students and alumni who shine in Madison’s constellation

As a scientist at NASA Goddard, Jennifer Eigenbrode (’94) works on experiments for Goddard’s Sample Analysis at Mars mobile lab, which will launch in fall 2011. Learn more about Eigenbrode at http://ael.gsfc.nasa.gov/ael_bio_eigenbrode.html.
Jennifer Eigenbrode ('94) is searching for life on Mars. The biogeochemist and geologist has designed an experiment that will explore the likelihood of life existing there — perhaps 3.5 billion years ago, and possibly now. She says Lynn Fichter’s JMU geology class in stratigraphy initially pointed her toward her research focus.

The experiment Eigenbrode proposed and developed for the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., will be part of Goddard’s Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) suite of instruments on a mobile laboratory. Other NASA scientists are selecting sites on the Red Planet for the Mars Science Laboratory rover and explorer “Curiosity,” to explore. MSL/Curiosity will launch in fall 2011 and land on Mars in summer 2012, where it will obtain and transfer data to Earth, via satellite, for at least two Earth years.

Though an artist’s rendering gives Curiosity a Tinkertoy appearance, Eigenbrode says, “The belly of the rover is the size of a small compact car and the wheelbase is comparable to a large truck. It can drive over boulders one meter in size.”

It will study all aspects of Mars’ history.

A Mars Daily article on Eigenbrode’s project calls MSL’s SAM component “one of the most complicated instruments ever to land on the surface of another planet.” Its robotic arm will scoop up soil samples, insert them into a carousel of tiny tubes, slide them into an oven and heat them — releasing gases SAM can analyze “for potential biomarkers” (indications of sustenance of life).

A few billion years ago, Eigenbrode notes, Mars was more like Earth, with liquid water. “If large organic molecules exist on Mars, an experiment specifically designed to break these molecules apart into identifiable components will be useful for understanding potential sources (geochemical or biochemical) and surface processes on Mars,” She hopes investigating the molecules’ evolution and composition will “shed light on the planet’s carbon cycle.”

Eigenbrode tested the effectiveness of the chemicals tetramethylammonium hydroxide in methanol in releasing organic molecules from rocks analogous to those on Mars. Favorable results prompted the inclusion of her experiment on SAM.

If evidence supports life on Mars, she says, “then it will be important to understand how that life interacted with its environment and how the Martian biosphere evolved.” However, “detection of life . . . will not be straightforward. We may make observations that are suggestive of life, but we’ll need additional independent observations.” Although MSL/Curiosity will remain on Mars, a future craft might return Martian sediment samples to Earth for more thorough inspection.

Could the findings help with the search for “Earth-like” planets beyond our solar system? Eigenbrode says, “Probably. The only biosphere that we know of is Earth, and we use this knowledge to help guide the detection of exoplanets that might support biospheres. If Mars ever supported life, then it would expand our concept of planetary scale biospheres — their operation and detection.”

A Pennsylvania native, Eigenbrode was an undergraduate research assistant in JMU’s geology labs. She calls Cullen Sherwood’s soils lab “most memorable,” and Fichter’s stratigraphy class triggered her interest in geological history. “Jen was an extremely perceptive, energetic, curious and driven individual,” Fichter recalls. “She’s just a gem.”

Since she graduated, the JMU geology and environmental science department has doubled its faculty, drawn about 100 majors, and improved its earth science B.A. as an option for those who do not, like Eigenbrode, earn the geology B.S., Fichter notes.

After Madison, Eigenbrode worked for the U.S. Geological Survey, where climatology exploration proved “monumental.” Next came graduate school at Indiana University. In climatology, she found, “I had just chosen a new career path that would become interdisciplinary. There would be no more geology, biology or chemistry — it all blended together into a single field of study, which opened doors to the possibilities of what I could explore.”

For her master’s thesis, Eigenbrode studied a salt lake sediment record of climate change in California. “Little did I know that years later we would consider this an analog to ancient Mars environments.”

Teaching a Meteorites and Planets course to undergrads led Eigenbrode to realize: “To become a professor, I had to get a Ph.D., so I did” — in geosciences, from Pennsylvania State. There, she says, “I was immersed in Earth-system science from day one.” While teaching Evolution of the Biosphere, she put her finger on the topic that would drive her research — the evolution of microbial life on Earth and elsewhere. “Within a year, I had joined the newly formed NASA Astrobiology Institute and was on my road to becoming an astrobiologist studying molecular records of life stored in rocks and ice.”

Since arriving at her current post in 2007, Eigenbrode says, “As a scientist, I do my best to make opportunities to teach. There is nothing like seeing someone’s face light up with that ‘ah ha!’ look, or using something you’ve taught them in their own way.”

If large organic molecules exist on Mars, an experiment specifically designed to break these molecules apart into identifiable components will be useful for understanding potential sources and surface processes on Mars.”
Embracing failure to find success

Jan Gillis (’07, ’11P)

Jumping off a cliff ... and assembling your plane on the way down. “The illustration might seem absurd, but it conveys the entrepreneurial experience quite well,” says Bill Wales. The JMU professor of entrepreneurship adds, “You either make it, or you don’t.”

At its core, entrepreneurship is about problem solving. Having identified a problem, the entrepreneur goes into action. “You have to come up with a solution, and put it out there. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn’t. You don’t really know until you observe the solution that you have,” Wales says.

The professor has definitely solved the problem of how to effectively teach the basics of the rough-and-tumble experience of entrepreneurship. When Wales began his JMU career in 2009, he wanted hands-on experience to be a large part of his teaching the MGT 372 Entrepreneurship course. In his classes there are no tests, at least not the typical kind. “The test is getting out there and learning from experience,” he explains.

And Wales gets his students out there in a hurry. Spending a great deal of time in business planning early in the process often sets entrepreneurs up for failure. He explains the irony. “People tend to focus their activity and mind-set on planning rather than doing. What the entrepreneur needs to be doing is going out there and working with their product.” Sound scary? Like trying to build your plane before you hit the pavement?

Not to worry. Wales’ tactic works quite well. “I use a portfolio approach in the course,” he says. “Students can start as many ventures as they want. It’s a valuable way to unleash creativity.” Rather than spending time trying to mitigate all the risks of their ventures before they get started, Wales’ method allows students to try and fail. “They get started earlier and are willing to embrace their failures and redirect their attention to doing it better.”

For instance, Ashley Kehoe (’10) and her team couldn’t get the consistency right for the sugar-wax hair removal product they were working on. Solving a problem closer to personal interests moved them from failure to success. Kehoe, an equestrian event rider, realized that their sticky concoction was the perfect consistency to adhere to a horse’s hoof. With therapeutic additions of epsom salts and Betadine, their sticky sugar product could be an excellent soreness relieving hoof pack for horses. Rebound Hoof Pack was born.

Trial and error is fundamental to entrepreneurship, and Wales is adept at instilling the entrepreneurial mind-set in his students. “I always ask them, ‘What’s the quickest, fastest, cheapest way you can test your product or service?’” he says. “If it works, then you put extra time into it.”

Coming up with a great idea is not always the hard part of entrepreneurship. Ski enthusiast Kyle Houser (’10) and members of his iGroup team realized there was a market for a low-cost, do-it-yourself solution for protecting consumers’ investments in expensive sports equipment. Then the real challenge began. Repeated experiments, failures and formula adjustments finally led to Cool Wax, a ski and snowboard protectant wax applied over metal edges to prevent rust and deterioration. “That’s the entrepreneurial process, figuring out how you can solve a problem in the market, and then how you can solve the problems that arise as you develop the product,” says Houser.

Wales acts as a small business coach for his students. One of his favorite techniques is to ask them questions and guide them to an answer. It’s the reverse of the traditional teaching method of pushing information to students. “I found that students learn significantly more when they are pulling the information,” he says. “In many entrepreneurship courses, you have a grandiose business plan at the end, but it is not based in reality. The businesses are dead before they take off. I find that if students have created a venture that takes off, they will continue with it.”

Indeed they do.

Kehoe has taken Rebound on the road or, more specifically, to horse shows and competitions. Rebound is now endorsed by Karen O’Connor, four-time U.S. Olympic equestrian, and several other members of the U.S. Olympic team. Cool Wax has been successful at the local ski resorts of Bryce and Massanutten, and it has sold out in Lake Tahoe and in Utah and Colorado ski resorts.

Wales wants his students to come to a firm conviction: “I can solve problems.” After all, business is based on solving problems. And so is much of life itself.

* www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/wales-entrepreneurship.shtml

Bill Wales, a JMU professor in the College of Business, says, “At its core, entrepreneurship is about problem solving.” He teaches his students to unleash their creativity.
The popular TV show CSI centers on criminalists who dramatically investigate and solve crimes. They carry guns, make incredible last-second deductions and chase down criminals. Michelle Waldron ('00), who is a real-life criminalist and latent print examiner for the Missouri Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory in Springfield, Mo., can only smile at the show’s portrayal of her career. “I do like to watch CSI on occasion because it makes me laugh,” she says. “My co-workers and I like to joke about it. We will give each other a hard time by saying, ‘I can’t believe you didn’t get a fingerprint. I saw them do it on CSI!’”

Waldron’s job as a criminalist may not be quite as dramatic as those of her TV counterparts, but it is no less interesting or rewarding. She grew up in Fairfax, Va., with law enforcement “in her DNA.” Her father, Ronald J. Waldron, served as a New Jersey State trooper before devoting the bulk of his career to the Department of Justice. When she enrolled at JMU, Waldron knew she wanted a career in criminal justice, but was unsure of exactly which aspect of the field. She majored in computer information systems because, she says, “It would help me no matter what path I chose.”

At JMU, Waldron played on the women’s rugby team and took advantage of the natural beauty of the Harrisonburg area with her teammates. “Whether we were swimming at Blue Hole, watching a sunset at Reddish Knob or grabbing a late night bite at Jess’s Quick Lunch, we always found a way to enjoy what Harrisonburg had to offer. The valley has so many beautiful areas where you can get away from the crowd,” she says.

After graduation and while working for the Department of Justice, Waldron accepted a field job at a federal prison in San Diego. There, she used her JMU-acquired computer information systems skills to track inmates and their movements via computer. She eventually decided to return to school and graduated from the University of New Haven in 2005 with a master’s degree in forensic science. Then came a short stint providing surveillance for a private investigator. Later, she worked for the private MSSU Regional Crime Laboratory. For the last three years she has worked for the Missouri State Highway Patrol’s latent print crime lab developing fingerprints for criminal investigations.

“When the great variety among my daily activities and between each criminal case is one of the most enjoyable aspects of my job,” says Waldron. Beyond examining and processing evidence, she also trains new examiners, testifies in court and occasionally heads to crime scenes to search for prints.

Cracking a cold case is especially satisfying to Waldron, who enjoys seeing victims get justice. “I like to imagine the so-called ‘bad guy’ sitting on the couch eating potato chips a year or two after the crime and thinking, ‘I sure got away with that.’ Then the doorbell rings and Joe Cop makes the arrest.”

Waldron remembers one particular case where she developed prints off of tape used in a pipe bomb. “That was the first case where I was able to get fingerprints from the sticky side of duct tape using a dye stain,” she says. The case seemed completely cold after three years without a fingerprint database hit. Even though the statute of limitations had expired when the team got a hit, Waldron says, “It’s nice to feel like you are having a positive influence. Getting a positive I.D. from the U.S. National Automated Fingerprint Identification System was exciting.”

Waldron’s motivation to do the job is simple: “When I work a case, I try to handle it the way I would want it handled if I was the victim. Then I know I’m doing all I can.”
They both graduated from Madison with a B.S. in art; they both create original art; they are both art educators; and well, they married each other while they were students at Madison. Rosan Tomaino Hunter ('76) and Robert S. Hunter ('74, '76M) enjoy the duality of both making and teaching art.

Rosan, who was a collage artist for 20 years before returning to teaching, directs the visual art talented and gifted program in the Northern Neck area of Virginia. She also teaches elementary art in Madison County. Currently, her original art pieces are focused mostly on jewelry and printmaking.

This year, Robert celebrates 31 years of teaching art at Colonial Beach High School. *Arts and Activities Magazine* has published his entire eighth-grade art curriculum. Rosan and Robert’s list of art awards and accolades is as long as their love for each other. They celebrate their 34th wedding anniversary in August.

When contemplating the duality of creating and teaching art, Robert focuses on the rewards. “Empowering students to believe in their own abilities to create and appreciate art in tandem with producing my own artwork provides a sense of satisfaction and achievement that could never be equaled. I consider myself very lucky.”

On the next page, both Rosan and Robert provide an artist statement — also full of dualities.
Rosan T. Hunter ('76)

“Throughout my life I’ve been a collector of materials having storied histories. Each bit of lace or faded photograph, and every unique bead or button has had a former life. I listen for whispers of the past as I combine materials in my collage process. My best pieces are those that combine materials so each enhances the other in a new and unexpected way. Memories reside in my work and hopefully they resonate with the viewer to create an image containing many layers of aesthetic appreciation.”

Robert S. Hunter ('74, '76M)

“In my work I invite comparisons of people, places and things in richly textured dynamic compositions. My selection of subject matter comes from current cultural artifacts of absorbed myths, stories and icons, which have personal significance. By contrasting both plastic elements and figurative ones, I invite the viewer to consider the interaction of my choices and react to the visual reality that I have created. I hope that my reinterpretation of sometimes familiar sources will provide a new appreciation of their expressive power.”
A taste of the Appalachian Trail
Honors Seminar 302 stimulated my students and me physically, emotionally and academically
By Kate Kessler, honors program

It is extremely rare to be able to teach a class that offers tremendous academic freedom in an adventurous setting — and to be able to combine that freedom and adventure with serious research expectations and academic rigor is exciting. That is exactly what I was able to do last summer with Honors Seminar 302: A Taste of the Appalachian Trail. My course syllabus interwove multiple disciplines — economics, geography, history, sociology and psychology. The course fostered tremendous growth in my students — and in me.

The word “seminar” refers to academic instruction involving a small group of students engaged in special study and original research under the direction of an experienced teacher. Seminars often employ Socratic dialogue, an instructional method where the teacher functions as facilitator of independent learning rather than as dispenser of homogeneous knowledge. The seemingly unrelated word “geography” refers to the study of our Earth — its lands, features and inhabitants. My students — all part of the JMU Honors Program — were able to experience a combination of seminar and geography when they studied and lived on part of the Appalachian Trail.

We hiked and camped on nearly 70 miles of the Trail around the Shenandoah National Park. My students learned about the history of the Trail, including politics that affected its original creation; studied the flora and fauna along the trail; and learned about the politics that currently affect its preservation.

I got the idea for this seminar after a serendipitous encounter with college students while hiking in New England. These students enthusiastically described how they were earning college credits while hiking the Appalachian Trail. The idea that students could engage in independent study, and at the same time experience the world’s longest footpath (almost 2,200 miles), was appealing. Even more appealing was learning that none of these student hikers knew each other before meeting on the Trail. I was impressed with how quickly they bonded and formed a support group to help each other complete the entire Trail. I gave the students my contact information and told them to call me when they reached Front Royal.

And call me they did. I picked them up, and we spent a week at my home — them eating and playing video games, me absorbing...
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TRANSFORMATIONS

This honors seminar created a great balance among freedom of creative exploration, supervised learning and bonding with other students.”

— Meagan Clark (’10)

their many tales. These enterprising students inspired me to create the JMU honors seminar, A Taste of the Appalachian Trail, to engage students in experiential and multidisciplinary approaches to learn about the national park right in Harrisonburg’s backyard.

Throughout the seminar, my students encountered a variety of trail folk, from section hikers to thru-hikers, from ridge runners to trail angels. (Section hikers hike sections of the Trail, and thru hikers hike the entire Trail until finished. Ridge runners are volunteers who patrol sections of the Trail, and trail angels provide the things hikers crave: beverages, snacks and rides into town). The long, linear family of Appalachian Trail hikers is one of the more unique communities in the world.

I also arranged for the author of three of our seminar texts to hike with us for a week. Leonard Adkins, author of 13 books about the Appalachian Trail, was a wealth of information. He knew every plant, animal and mineral along the way.

Students also engaged in one of the world’s more unique communication systems: Appalachian Trail shelter registers. Each shelter — and there are hundreds in Virginia alone — contains a register. Hikers, using only trail names, record everything from reflections on the day to dreams of their next pizza. Each shelter has a volunteer caretaker who monitors its register, taking it home for safe keeping when filled.

I have recorded many reflections under my trail moniker “semi-sweet,” which emerged when a fellow hiker decided I wasn’t totally good-natured. Thankfully, this was favorably coupled with the fact that my favorite trail food is semi-sweet chocolate chips!

As a testimony to how much JMU students enjoyed their trail seminar experience, several of them went hiking during this year’s Spring Break. Many have also shared their seminar and other hiking experiences with me. “I consider A Taste of the Appalachian Trail to be the defining experience of my undergraduate Madison Experience,” says Steven Irons (’10). “Professor Kessler is a quiet, strong presence, which made her ideally suited to lead a hiking seminar. Because of her experience hiking the entire Trail, she was able to offer us a lot of individual freedom to explore our own hiking styles without compromising safety. Our seminar agenda was structured, but also allowed for flexibility. After hiking through our second week in pouring rain, she asked if we would like to return to campus. We unanimously voted to continue on. This fellowship developed because of the respect and trust we had in our professor.”

Sarah Lott (’10) says, “The biggest impact of this honors seminar was that each of us found a new appreciation and respect for nature and for fellow hikers. Dr. Kessler encouraged us to discover what the Trail meant to us individually. It made such a positive impression on me that I plan to thru-hike the entire Appalachian Trail after graduation.”

I challenged each of my honors students to identify an area of interest relating to the Appalachian Trail and to pursue it as independent research. Steven Irons (’10) videotaped much of the Trail’s flora and created an eco-film, which premiered at JMU’s Eco-Adventure Film Festival last fall. Sarah Lott studied radiation-sensitive Spiderworts that the Park Service plants as radiation heralds. Alex Haney (’10) studied the history of Big Meadows and Loft Mountain. Meagan Clark (’10) researched folk music indigenous to the Blue Ridge Appalachians. The students regrouped last fall and presented their research to the Sierra Club.

Clark says, “Our honors seminar created a great balance among freedom of creative exploration, supervised learning and bonding with other students. Dr. Kessler made sure all of us were engaging with the Trail in some way, and usually in a very fun way. We cooked together, put up tents together, huddled in rainstorms together … we truly bonded and learned, together.”

* Learn more about Kessler’s course at www.jmu.edu/international/abroad/jmu_honors_app_trail/index.shtml.
Putting knowledge into action

At Madison, classrooms are not confined to four walls. Professors take students into the community — or across the globe — to solve problems and put knowledge into action. JMU professors and students are known as positive risk-takers who embrace the idea that the world can be a better place when caring people listen, think and act. In the following articles, two professors prove that the Madison Experience produces enlightened citizens who will help build a better world. Giuliana Fazzion, head of the department of foreign languages, literatures and cultures, writes about the globalization of students and professors. Integrated science and technology professor Jennifer Coffman writes about teaching community building and sustainability in Africa and at home.

Kenyan connections
Community building at home and abroad

Each of us has the ability to contribute positively at home and/or abroad, although how best to do so may not be immediately obvious. When I was a junior in college, I didn’t know that my travels to East Africa would open a lifelong commitment to Kenya. Likewise, when I moved to the Shenandoah Valley a dozen years later, I had little idea that I would be so involved in issues of local food production and land use. How these opportunities unfolded for me underscores the fact that we need not set out with grand plans to have our lives changed, nor must we outline in advance our specific contributions to the lives of others.

Fluent in the language of service
Professors and students serve local minorities

By Giuliana Fazzion

The JMU Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures is made up of faculty members from all over the world, 19 countries to be precise. Our professors bring the best of their cultures to the department and its students, and to the community at large. They also know from personal or family experiences what it means to live and work in a foreign country; thus it has been natural for them to become involved in one of JMU’s central missions — globalization. Beyond teaching 14 languages and leading numerous Study Abroad programs, some professors have taken their knowledge of a given language and culture to their community.教授们已经自然地成为了JMU的中心使命之一——全球化。除了教授14门外语并带领了众多的海外留学项目，一些教授将他们的语言和文化知识带入到他们的社区。
and cultural programs, our professors reach out in many ways to help those in the local community; and they involve JMU students in every step.

Our department’s involvement with Harrisonburg’s Hispanic community began years ago with the creation of the Practical Spanish course, which has grown incredibly under the direction of Spanish professors Karina Kline-Gabel and Elizabeth Castro. Kline-Gabel has a long history of community involvement, and her students work with the local Skyline Literacy group to help adult students learn English as a second language. Her students have also attended classes at a local elementary school where 30 percent of the student population is Hispanic. JMU students work with children from pre-school through fourth grade to help those experiencing language difficulties and to help reinforce skills that teachers have presented. Every year, the children look forward to meeting their new “college buddies.”

Kline-Gabel also founded AMISTAD (friendship), a program in which JMU students attend a local middle school to spend time with Latino youths. During weekly sessions, JMU students visit sixth- and seventh-graders to play games and talk about the importance of retaining their native cultural identity while becoming good American citizens.

Elizabeth Castro places her Practical Spanish students with the Gus Bus, a community/university partnership. Students read books in Spanish to children who climb aboard the literacy bus. Castro also places JMU students with other community programs like the Career Development Academy and New Bridges, which helps local Latinos understand utility bills or fill out documentation paperwork.

Castro offers “Conversation Tables” semi-weekly after the Career Development Academy’s ESL classes. She also places students in local elementary, middle and high schools to help Latino children become more proficient in English. Castro also created Shadow College Buddies, a program in which JMU nursing students take advantage of this program, directed by Belkys Fernandez-Torres. She promotes closer relations between JMU students and members of the local Hispanic community by collaborating with the Blue Ridge Area Health Education Center, the JMU Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services and the Success By Six Academy. She and her students also participate in the annual International Week Festival to promote events like blood pressure screening at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital festival booth, or recycling and environmental issues at the Green Village booth.

Kevin Costello directs JMU’s translation/interpretation program, which focuses on Spanish. He completes translations from Spanish into English and revises translations into Spanish of documents intended for the Hispanic community. He is currently working with Susannah Lepley of the Blue Ridge Area Health Education Center to explore forms of collaboration with the department and help establish a mechanism to improve translations intended for the local Hispanic population.

Costello enjoyed working with Hannah Stell (’10), the first JMU student to graduate with a minor in Spanish-English translation and interpretation. Stell says, “This field has much more depth than I first realized. I was expecting a grammatical breakdown from one language to the other, but it’s also about being aware of the culture. You need to be culturally aware if you want to translate well. Translation is so important in sharing information — and ideas — around the world.”

Steve Gerome developed JMU’s Spanish for Law Enforcement course and a Spanish for Law Enforcement practicum, both part of a new minor. Students interact with officers in the Harrisonburg Police Department and gain hands-on experience in low-risk police interactions in the community.

Spanish instructor Jorge Nieto and his students are also involved with the local Hispanic community. Since fall 2004, Nieto has been a certified substitute Spanish interpreter/translator for Rockingham County Public Schools. He interprets and translates for parents, administrators, educators,
More than words
Translation is sharing ideas and culture

Hannah Stell (’10) of Charlottesville, Va., is the first JMU student to minor in Spanish-English translation and interpretation. She also double-majored in modern foreign languages with concentrations in Spanish and French. Kevin Costello, Spanish professor and director of the translation/interpretation program, interviewed Stell for La Revista, a newsletter for JMU students with Spanish minors.

La Revista: How did you become interested in translation?

Stell: When I started taking French and Spanish classes at JMU, I had to do some translation exercises. At first, I didn’t really understand that translation was a separate field of language study. Then, I saw the Translation Strategies course on e-campus and checked it out. During this course, I realized that translation was a profession that I would love.

La Revista: Did your Spanish translation courses meet your expectations?

Stell: They far exceeded them. Once I realized how much there was to the translations field, I discovered my career path.

La Revista: What’s your opinion of translation as a profession?

Stell: Translation is important in sharing information— and ideas— around the world. Without translators specialized in getting to the essence of what is being said in a language, ideas will only exist in that one language and in that one culture. Translators help spread those ideas around the world so we can experience other cultures in our own language.

La Revista: What skills do you think professional translators need?

Stell: They need to be comfortable with both languages, especially with the target language so they can find the precise word. They need to be aware of both the source culture and the target culture and of the differences. They need to be able to skillfully bridge cultures to be true to the source text while enabling readers to fully understand the target text.

La Revista: What did you learn in your Spanish translation courses that you will carry into your career?

Stell: There are technical subjects like formatting and copyediting, which are just as important to know, especially when translating in a professional job. It is great that the foreign languages department is exploring new paths so students can acquire knowledge of languages and find exciting careers.

La Revista: Would you recommend this professional minor?

Stell: I highly recommend it. If you are interested in translating, it can definitely lead to a career. But, if you’re just interested in trying the courses and don’t end up as a translator, you will still gain really useful knowledge.

‘You need to be culturally aware if you want to translate well. Translation is so important in sharing information— and ideas— around the world.’
— Hannah Stell (’10)

Hannah Stell (’10) was the first JMU student to complete the new minor in Spanish-English translation and interpretation.
others. Being aware of and open to possibilities enables us to discover paths worth following. When we do, great things can happen.

In both Kenya and our local valley, I examine the politics of land access and ownership, sustainable food production, and resource distribution, and I share these experiences with my students and other people who have greatly enriched my life. I merge many interests and duties through the JMU Field School in Kenya, which I created in 2003 and directed. It is an intensive summer program focusing on Kenya’s history, cultures and environments. The program’s founding values include a strong commitment to social responsibility, and it is designed to ensure that the majority of in-country costs directly benefit our host communities in Kenya.

For part of the program, students stay with Kenyan families and immerse themselves in their daily lives. “Not only was this the happiest time in my life, but it was also the most interesting and broadening experience,” says Ben Wilson (’08) about his 2007 trip.

The students’ experiences have long-term impacts. Katie Imbriglia (’10), who participated in 2009, says, “Kenya continues to be the most interesting and broadening experience,” says Ben Wilson (’08) about his 2007 trip.

The students’ experiences have long-term impacts. Katie Imbriglia (’10), who participated in 2009, says, “Kenya continues to be one of the most amazing experiences. I constantly think about what we learned.”

Through the Kenya program, and with independent fundraising, my students and I contribute to school and community projects, including school scholarships based on merit and need, supplementary food programs for three primary schools (we purchase and supply Kenyan-grown beans and maize to under-resourced schools), academic and sports supplies for at least four primary schools, and other community-based projects in our home-stay areas. We strive to buy locally produced goods (desks, food, uniforms, books from East African publishers), hire local laborers to construct things like community wells, and patronize local, family-owned shops. By favoring local goods and labor, our investments provide even more benefits. Further, students reflect on their own practices, and often some significant changes result. One student wrote on her program evaluation: “My experience in Kenya has certainly made me more conscious of my daily consumption and daily activities. I take for granted like turning on the tap and knowing there will be water. I encourage more students to embark on this program.”

The Kenya Field School has also led to grant-funded work. With support from a 2006 Fulbright-Hays Award, I took 15 K-12 teachers and three JMU teachers-in-training to Kenya to study pedagogic practices. We learned how to teach with minimal resources, lived with host families, learned about student and community relationships within the educational system, and expanded our own knowledge base while producing specific projects and curricula to benefit students and teachers in Virginia and Kenya.

Many of the Virginia teachers continue to support the Kenyan schools, connect students and teachers in Virginia and Kenya, and help Kenyan communities achieve more educational goals. A current grant from Project GO provides opportunities for ROTC students to participate in the Kenya program and carry skills that enrich their cultural understandings into their military careers.

Closer to home, my students and I pursue environmental work mainly through collaborative research on local food production in the Shenandoah Valley. I am a member of the Staunton/Augusta Farmers’ Market Board of Directors, and I participate in the Local Food and Farm Work Group, hosted by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office. I’ve learned an incredible amount about the local agriculture scene — rules, regulations and the woes and triumphs of various small-scale farmers. In collaboration with these groups, I created a farm internship program for JMU students, sponsored by the JMU Office of International Programs and ISA. Students work on local farms and earn academic credits while learning about the ecology and politics of farming. With a variety of partners, I’m working to expand collaborations focusing on sustainable food systems, and thus further greening Virginia farms.

Those who choose to study abroad or volunteer already have empathic tendencies. A willingness to remain open to this empathy keeps us connected to our former hosts and mentors and sheds light on new paths and exciting engagements at home and abroad. Volunteerism succeeds when relationships are good and we practice loyalty to those who do much for us. Our support contributes to changes greater than we can imagine.

(Above center): Jennifer Coffman founded and directs the successful Field School in Kenya. Students live with and learn from local families, while also exploring sustainable projects with their community hosts.
Ever wonder what a typical day is like in the life of a JMU student? Guess what? There is no one answer. There are millions of possibilities.

At JMU, you choose your Madison Experience. At JMU, you will learn to think critically, to lead a productive and meaningful life, to become a positive risk-taker, to work on your strengths and your weaknesses, and to accept your individuality.

Check out these nine students with majors as diverse as dance and biology. Their Madison Experiences include one-on-one relationships with top professors; majors, minors and concentrations that cross disciplines and academic interests; community service that enhances their academic knowledge; and an interesting mix of intramural and social student activities and organizations. Through a one-of-a-kind student success program, the Madison Experience helps JMU students find their way to Be the Change.
Amada Kuhnley (’11) likes a good challenge — or four. This honors student and Dingledine Scholarship recipient has two majors — integrated science and technology, and art history — as well as two minors — studio art and classical studies — and a monster senior thesis that will meld all of these interests into one incredible project.

“This is why I chose JMU,” she says, “because I wanted a challenge.” Yet JMU was the furthest thing from her mind as a high-school senior. Kuhnley had been accepted at an older elite college, but her theater director at Bishop Sullivan Catholic High in Virginia Beach kept raving about JMU, his alma mater. “He completely transformed my outlook,” Kuhnley says. It was during her campus visit that she fell in love with the people she met and realized she would “never be a number” at JMU.

“My choice was to go to [another school], where I would fall into their tradition with the pressure of hundreds of years of scholars bearing down upon my shoulders, or go to JMU where I could be part of an innovative and inspiring family and make my own challenges.”

Before arriving as a freshman, she declared both art history and integrated science and technology as majors, even though she considered science her worst subject. She was attracted to JMU’s “different approach” to science — a broader, more collaborative environment with lots of teamwork and hands-on learning. “The professors in the College of Integrated Science and Technology promised a chance to participate in undergraduate research. That was vital in my choice,” she says. “At JMU, it’s not totally about the grade; the ability to think critically and to show compassion to others is a large measure of success.”

At first, because art and science didn’t seem terribly related, she got “some push-back” from academic advisers. Now four years later, she is merging these fields not only to
The island of Malta is in the middle of the Mediterranean, and it’s been a hub for trade and pirate activity for centuries. It has lots of artifacts and art that can be analyzed and evaluated to determine their age and the identity of the culture involved in creating them. This is the kind of work Amanda hopes to pursue after graduation.

As soon as she returned this summer, Kuhnley embarked on her ultimate test — a senior thesis project that involved collaborating with German colleagues, building all of the lab experiments for ISAT’s new engineering course and teaching the labs to other JMU students.

“Amanda is a perfect example of a student carving out exactly what she needs from JMU to pursue a very specific interdisciplinary career path,” says ISAT professor Ron Kander. Kuhnley acknowledges the project will be intense in part because she’ll be graded both on the written part and her teaching abilities.

It is extremely rare for undergraduate students to co-teach courses or serve as teaching assistants at JMU, but Kuhnley has had practice thanks to Calculus professor Paul Goodall. “I stood in front of my peers and answered questions at the chalkboard,” Kuhnley says. “My leadership skills and confidence grew tremendously, and I think I was able to really help several people.” Goodall conurs and adds that, “Amanda is almost too good to be true. She runs extra help sessions each Friday afternoon and she looks for every opportunity to give back. For example, normally we check over the entire homework assignment for answers and then maybe give detailed feedback on..."

Continued on Page 45

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**Christian Schwantes (’10)**

### Changing the chemical world

**BY MARTHA BELL GRAHAM**

Christian Schwantes (’10) of Falls Church, Va., once wanted a Nobel Prize, but now the double major in chemistry and math has a higher goal. “Science is becoming more interdisciplinary,” he says. “Labs now hire biologists, chemists and physicists to work on the same problem.”

And each uses a different language. “In chemistry we decant solutions instead of pouring. In medicine, we perform phlebotomies instead of testing blood. The language drives the gap between scientists and everyone else. We need to communicate.”

Schwantes wants to do this in a classroom, as a research Ph.D. “Chemistry is becoming more and more mainstream, but it’s still an esoteric subject. Chemical imbalances in the brain are being linked to disorders like Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s and to personality issues, like being more prone to violence or addictions. I’d like to see chemistry be in everyone’s mind when going on with their lives, but a huge obstacle is the esoteric language that we scientists love to use. The language is just driving the gap between scientists and everyone else further and further apart. We need to bridge that gap and the first and easiest way to do that is to communicate. We need to be able to communicate our research with people who have not studied it for years.”

He’s already making inroads: From the summer after his freshman year through his senior year, he worked with JMU chemistry professor Kevin Minbiole investigating the role of chemistry in a symbiotic relationship between bacteria and amphibians where the bacteria were able to protect amphibians from a fungal pathogen by secreting antifungal metabolites. “I had heard of the disease before and always considered myself to be an environmentalist,” says Schwantes. “Working with Dr. Minbiole was a perfect fit.”

Schwantes has co-authored papers with Minbiole and published them in the *Journal of Chemical Ecology* and *International Society for Microbial Ecology*. Schwantes has also presented at the International Society for Chemical Ecology conference in Switzerland and the American Chemical Society conference. “At more well-known research schools, I would only be a graduate researcher’s assistant. At JMU, I’ve led the research team. JMU changed me.”

After graduating in May as the top JMU student in chemistry and mathematics, and the top senior in biochemistry, Schwantes will begin Stanford University’s Ph.D. program in computational chemistry this fall.

He wants to change the world of chemistry. “I hope that in moving on to become a professor in a field — whose mention generally brings scowls from the audience — I can change how people regard chemistry,” he explains. “I love everything about chemistry, and I want to share that with the world. I think JMU’s Be the Change motto uses ‘the world’ in a looser sense. I always had the drive to change the world, but I always thought that meant I had to change the entire world. JMU grads leave with the ability to be world changers — even if their world is a kindergarten class in Kansas. JMU has helped me realize that change, however small, is important.”
Ask Christa Brown (’12) what she wants to do after JMU and you’ll hear a 20-year plan that ends either in Congress or the Oval Office. While your eyes may be rolling, please consider that she is well on her way to attaining her goals as she will graduate with three majors that as a unit make Brown a one-of-a-kind, exceptionally well-rounded leader.

Brown’s three majors — German, political science, and theater and dance — mean most of her time is consumed with study. “I have no qualms about getting lost in my schoolwork,” she declares on her MySpace page, and indeed it’s what she hoped college would be like when she was at Prince George High School near Richmond. She was also accepted at two other schools, but ultimately came to Madison for one reason: academics. Sure, she thought the campus was beautiful and the social activities plentiful, but she chose JMU “to get knowledge, to be mentored by the best professors and ultimately to get an awesome job,” she says.

As a freshman, Brown declared political science as a major, but she quickly realized she wanted more. “I wouldn’t say I’m typical,” she says with a boisterous laugh. “It’s unusual to have three majors, but my professors offer a lot of support, I’m super organized, and I never lose sight of my main objectives. I’m mostly paying for my own education, and I think that helps me to stay focused. I’m passionate and driven to achieve the goals I’ve set for myself.” Those goals are so top-of-mind that Brown can list them in chronological order: join the U.S. Air Force, followed by law school — specializing in immigration law — a stint in Congress and then possibly serve as an ambassador to Germany. Sometimes she also tacks on the lofty goal of president.

Her political resume is already under way. After serving in student government in high school,
‘It’s unusual to have three majors, but my professors offer a lot of support, I’m super organized, and never lose sight of my main objectives.’
— Christa Brown (’12)

Brown decided to major in political science with a concentration in pre-law. At JMU, she participated in “Take Your Professor to Lunch Day” and got one-on-one time with a professor who also served in the Virginia House of Delegates. “It was an amazing experience,” Brown says. “I was eating lunch with him, and I remember thinking, ‘yes, this is what I want to do.’ This is why I came to JMU.”

From then on, she joined every related program available to her including the Student Government Association and the Judicial Council — a group with authority to judge its campus peers. Brown says the Judicial Council is a particularly good fit because she is “drawn to law and order, and maintaining order.”

Those skills were then strengthened during a junior-year internship with Harrisonburg Mayor Kai Degner (’03, ’05M). The “mini-internship” was part of a class project helping Degner with his Harrisonburg Summit series, an Open Space Technology chain of meetings where participants create an agenda on the fly. Brown worked on the Intercultural/Interfaith Summit where several breakout sessions focused specifically on immigrant communities, a topic she plans to study further. “Christa illustrates a common experience at JMU,” Degner says. “Students get out of the classroom and into the real world.”

Now, Brown is gearing up for her next out-of-classroom experience: a Study Abroad program in Germany. Her primary goal is to build language skills through immersion, but she also hopes to absorb a good deal of culture as well: “I enjoy philosophy — Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Montesquieu — and I want to study German philosophers like Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer and Nietzsche.” She’ll also try to see as many opera houses as possible, a nod to her third major — theater and dance.

Though people often ask how theater and dance fits into her legal and political plans, Brown calls the JMU theater department her true home. “It’s where I am most me, where I am allowed to relax,” she says. “I’m not a party person or a socialite. Instead, I use theater to relieve my stress. It’s therapeutic.”

This philosophy was partially inspired by Scott Zane Smith, her favorite professor. “The relationships students have with JMU professors are amazing,” Brown says. “I’ve been privileged to really get to know a professor who also instructs and inspires me like no other. Professor Smith expects a lot out of his students, and I push myself to meet his expectations.”

Smith says all voice students must quickly learn to set priorities because they practice on the Honor System, logging their time spent, goals accomplished and personal evaluation. “Students

CONTINUED ON PAGE 45 >>>

Elle Bunn (’11) has a contradictory lifestyle. She lives for sports and is often taking in the intensity of her two favorites, hockey and football. But while she was working on her sports management major during her freshman year at JMU, she was also busy being crowned Miss Teen Virginia United States.

Bunn is a graduate of Kellam High School in Virginia Beach where she excelled in both sports and pageantry. Her two passions may seem polar opposites, but Bunn says that the two are much more similar than one may think. “Pageants really are mentally grinding, just like any sport,” she explains. And with the swimsuit portion of the competition, the physicality is not far behind.

In spite of her impressive run, Bunn has decided to focus on her love for sports at JMU. “I’ve been in front of the camera before, and now it’s my time to be more behind the scenes,” she says.

Not only will she be using her sports marketing major, but she will also use her business minor during an internship with the JMU athletics department this fall. Bunn will be working with Alyssa Gerlando (’07M), director of athletics marketing. Gerlando became familiar with Bunn’s work ethic after having her as a student in Introduction to Marketing in the Sports Industry. Gerlando hired Bunn as the in-game hostess for JMU men’s and women’s basketball games. A first for JMU athletics, Bunn helps emcee contests and keeps the crowd revved up during halftime.

‘She also brings a high level of professionalism, poise, energy and the ability to interact with our fans.’
— Alyssa Gerlando (’07M)

Elle Bunn (’11) has turned her sports management classroom skills into a fun way to engage JMU Dukes fans during halftime.

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Bunn has spent 10 years of her life competing in pageants, all without a coach. Instead, her success in pageantry simply comes from learning from her own mistakes. After she was crowned Miss Teen Virginia United States, she then competed for Miss Teen United States where she received first runner-up and Miss Congeniality honors.

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‘She also brings a high level of professionalism, poise, energy and the ability to interact with our fans.’
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J.T. Danko’s intramural volleyball team did not win a single game during the regular season this past spring. Then, as if scripted by DreamWorks Studios, the team went undefeated through the playoffs, pulling off the greatest comeback in … well, in the history of UREC’s coed intramural outdoor sand-volleyball league. Danko can’t resist a grin and a pump of his fist at the memory. “It was great — a total Cinderella story.”

Danko, an integrated science and technology major with concentrations in environment and biotechnology, seems more eager to talk about that volleyball team than the 60-pound supermileage vehicle sitting back in the corner of the JMU Alternative Fuels Lab. This vehicle is the product of Danko, Danny Yeh and David Roy’s senior thesis, and proof of the time, study and effort put forth by this senior trio.

Danko gives me a pair of safety glasses to put on and then guides me to the back corner of the machine shop past a purple, three-wheeled chopper and a somewhat plain electric pickup truck used by JMU grounds crews and maintained in the Alternative Fuels Lab about a mile from campus.

The supermileage vehicle, on this day, is still very much a work in progress. The black chassis (cannibalized from a similar vehicle) is held about two inches off the ground by three sleek bicycle tires. Thin copper wires arc and taper like fish bones outlining what will be the framework for the body made of a type of shrink-wrap for boats. Strips of wood with putty and goopy looking glue trim out the framework and provide the mounts for the copper wires.

I comment on its slapdash appearance, and Danko smiles, taking delight in the team’s resourcefulness. A modest budget of $500 required the team to be creative. “We’ve been using whatever we can get our hands...”
on for materials since we are basically out of money," Danko explains. Some materials were donated by friends and teachers; the clear plastic needed for the windshield was found in a friend’s basement, and some of the scrap metal was dug out of the dumpster behind the lab.

Looking over the nuts and bolts of this cool vehicle it might be easy to forget the amount of academic work that went into making it all possible. That is, unless you attended Danko, Yeh and Roy’s presentation at the Integrated Science and Technology Senior Symposium in April. On the day of this annual symposium, all ISAT classes are cancelled and students, parents, professors, visiting academics and employers gather to hear the presentations given by these aspiring young engineers and technicians.

Key to Danko, Yeh and Roy’s thesis, as made evident in the abstract, was the team’s goal to put its project in the context of current concerns over climate change and global oil depletion. Danko’s introduction highlighted the need for alternatives to traditional automobile transportation in a world that may be facing an “oil life” of about 25 to 35 years.

The supermileage vehicle and experiments with fuel-injection systems is the team’s contribution to a global concern about finding ways of extending the time remaining before oil depletion.

“Our goal was to achieve a fuel economy between 700 and 1,000 miles per gallon,” says Danko. “We were actually testing the car up until 10 p.m. the night before the presentation to get some fuel efficiency values. We did circles around Purcell Park and some JMU parking lots, and we were thinking about running it up and down the halls for a flat surface. Luckily it didn’t come to that.”

Danko came to JMU via Stillwater, N.J., where he was a three-sport high-school student-athlete. He still gets his athletic fixes from fly fishing, and with national parks nearby the local environment is quite agreeable to Danko. “I came from a community a lot like Harrisonburg,” he says. “It was a comfortable place to come.”

Danko entered the JMU team’s vehicle in the 2010 Society of Automotive Engineer’s Supermileage competition in July in Ann Arbor, Mich. It was one of dozens of vehicles from universities all over the country. With sponsorships from the likes of Shell and Mobile, some schools boasted budgets in the $8,000 to $14,000 range. The JMU vehicle was constructed from a $500 budget, and Danko takes particular pride in this reality. Besides that, only one vehicle in Ann Arbor sported a purple reclined seat emblazoned with the image of the Duke Dog. Read more at http://students.sae.org/competitions/supermileage/results/.

‘Our goal was to achieve a fuel economy between 700 and 1,000 miles per gallon.’
— J.T. Danko (’10)

The JMU atmosphere was just what Rosenberg was looking for. The campus location, the aesthetics of the buildings and layout, the smaller student population and the attitude of current students were all positive. Members of the psychology department answered many of Rosenberg’s questions about the undergraduate program. “I loved the feeling I got at JMU,” she says.

Rosenberg loved JMU so much, she liked sharing the Madison Experience with prospective students as a Student Ambassador. “Professors aren’t just here to fulfill research or just to instruct,” she says. “They are here for students, and they make you feel that way.” During her sophomore year, one of her psychology professors invited her to share Jewish holidays with his family. The kindness of including a student in a family celebration seems to prove her point. “I love sharing that story,” she says. “It demonstrates the quality of our professors.”

Rosenberg was also involved in Hillel, a campus group that sponsors cultural, religious and social events based on Jewish traditions. She served as secretary, social programming chair and president, and she juggled all those responsibilities with academics and social events. “There’s no trick formula” to managing multiple activities, Rosenberg says. “Priorities are classes, homework and visits to professors. They come before any social events.”

Rosenberg describes herself as a typical Duke despite all her extracurricular activities. “Students love to get involved, to be part of something meaningful. The number of clubs doesn’t matter, just the intent of doing something to make a difference.”

Psychology professor Arnie Kahn says, “Rachel is the most positive student I ever taught. She is open, nonjudgmental and would stop at nothing to achieve goals to benefit her class or her group.”

As a Student Ambassador, Rosenberg enjoyed talking about campus diversity. “JMU students get to meet people from all walks of life. Diversity is not just skin color, it’s a person’s background. That shapes more of my experience, who I am, what I know. The part of the country or world that students are from and their religion, race, upbringing and high-school experience are some of the things that contribute to the diversity of JMU’s community.”

The psychology major chose an exceptional education minor because she wants to work with special needs children. After seeing how psychology and special education are related, “I thought it would be a good fit for my interests to do both,” she says. “Even though I know I don’t want to be in a school setting, it’s still a great fit. There is more than academics involved in a school with special needs students.”

Rosenberg will pursue a master’s in clinical social work at Catholic University or Maryland. “I want to work with families of children with special needs — the structure of the house, the way they live — to help children be successful,” she says.
Getting kids healthy

By Jacquelyn Walsh ('09)

Shannon Dougherty did not spend her Spring Break like most college students. She wasn’t on a beach in Cancun or visiting old high-school friends, but she still had a great time. During the first part of spring semester, Dougherty worked as a student teacher at Thomas Harrison Middle School in Harrisonburg teaching physical education to almost 400 children. It was the first week of her last eight weeks as a senior at JMU. For the rest of the semester she taught PE full time.

Dougherty, a kinesiology major in physical and health education teacher education, came to JMU from Baltimore, Md., where she graduated in a class of just 59 students from Maryville Preparatory High School, an all-girls Catholic school.

Coming to JMU was an easy choice for Dougherty, who heard about the university from friends who had graduated before her. While visiting her friends at JMU, Dougherty became interested in the Madison Experience. “One of the first things that really drew me in was how friendly everybody is,” says Dougherty, who, as a freshman, declared athletics training as a major. “I looked at other schools, but I decided to come here, and I’m glad I made that choice.”

Dougherty soon discovered the athletics training major wasn’t the best fit for her. After taking a career assessment test at the JMU Career Center, she found an interest in being a physical education teacher. “After I thought about it more, I said, ‘Alright, let’s do it.’ I had always known that I wanted to work with kids, and I want to help people,” says Dougherty.

“T’ve always been somebody who got involved.”

As an avid Special Olympics volunteer throughout high school, Dougherty discovered that she could continue her volunteer work by joining the JMU chapter of the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. “I loved being able to

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— SHANNON DOUGHERTY

Tom Moran, Dougherty has put together various outreach programs geared specifically to local children with disabilities — a parks and recreation program, a training program for community organizations, and an aquatics program to teach children with disabilities how to swim. She also helps with Just for Kicks, Helping Hands and Project CLiMB (Children Learning to Improve Movement Behaviors), all programs that Moran coordinates.

“Dr. Moran has really helped me get into working with children with disabilities, and I came to him after getting into the program and told him that I wanted to do more,” says Dougherty.

Geared with individualized lesson plans from Project CLiMB, Dougherty helped students learn basic skills like throwing, catching and working in groups, which she says enhanced her teaching skills.

“Shannon just relished leadership opportunities and ran with them for no other glory than her own professional development and the feeling she gets from working with kids,” says Moran. “Her willingness to further herself as a teacher sets her apart from her peers.”

Dougherty agrees that seeing her work touch the lives of children and their parents provides a motivation that is unrivaled. “The kids are so loving and appreciative and all their parents are the same way,” says Dougherty. “They are grateful that there is something their kids can do other than just going to school and coming home. These parents go above and beyond for their kids.”

Dougherty has even taught her peers as a guest speaker in the Madison Experience including becoming a First Year Orientation Guide, known affectionately by JMU students as FROGs. “I loved being a FROG because I wanted to get other people involved in the JMU experience and to get them as excited about JMU as I am,” she says.

“You can try anything and do anything at JMU. You’re going to be accepted no matter what you do. You don’t have to be in sports; you don’t have to be in a sorority; you don’t have to do anything that a typical college student does. JMU professors, students and administrators let you be who you are. You get to know what you want to do.”

Because of her passion for helping children with disabilities, Dougherty also picked up a minor in special education. With the help of kinesiology professor

Sara Parrish ('10)
Holistic health through art

BY SARA RIDDLE ('10)

With a large assortment of majors and minors to choose from, many students enter JMU unsure of what to study. That was the case for Sara Parrish ('10) who wanted an education in health and also wanted to incorporate her artistic side into her studies. After deciding on a major in health sciences with a concentration in public health, she still felt like she was missing out. So, she picked up a studio art minor.

“This combination of an education in both public health education and studio art allowed me a concrete knowledge of health information and an expressive and communicative way of conveying emotion,” she says. “The art minor has allowed me to look at my public health education from a holistic standpoint that furthers my understanding of how to educate people.”

Parrish incorporated her studies into campus involvement. She worked in the JMU Office of Community Service-Learning as a service coordinator for aging and health services; was a member of Phi Epsilon Kappa, a professional fraternity for health science, kinesiology, and physical and health education teacher education majors; and was a 2010 Alternative Spring Break leader.

Parrish traveled with 11 other students to the town of Trujillo, Peru, to interact with underprivileged school children, rebuild benches and bookshelves, and paint a mural in the school’s courtyard. “We changed the lives of Peruvian children by giving our time and through simple donations such as pens, paper, notebooks, teddy bears and soccer balls.” The trip is Parrish’s most memorable Madison Experience.

“Sara is successful in all areas of her life, whether it is art or health or philanthropy,” says Laura Blosser, adviser in the JMU health sciences department. “I know she will continue to positively impact the lives of those with whom she interacts.”

In July, Parrish completed an internship with a Washington, D.C.-based service agency for the elderly.

‘We changed the lives of Peruvian children by giving our time and through simple donations such as pens, paper, notebooks, teddy bears and soccer balls.’

— SARA PARRISH ('10)

Check out more students’ Madison Experiences at www.jmu.edu/MadisonOnline.
Author/philosopher Joseph Campbell famously advised people in search of a fulfilling life to live by the credo “Follow your bliss.” Andrew Pham seems to have known that little secret since high school, and it has served him well. His love of music led him to JMU, and now this honors scholar can look back proudly on a long list of accomplishments in the classroom, on stage and in the growing collection of his original compositions.

Pham meets me in the Music Building on a spring afternoon. He is wearing jeans and a dark blue blazer over a T-shirt and a pair of bright green Pumas. He carries himself with a quiet ease, walking smoothly. When he speaks, he is equally poised.

He began playing the piano at the age of 6, and although he always showed great promise, his focus shifted as he developed other interests in high school such as Wushu — a martial art popularized by Jackie Chan and Jet Li. His passion for this exotic sport led to a journey to China where he studied and trained for three and a half weeks. Though he has little time for such training now, he remains fond of this performance art.

Not until his return to the United States and his senior year in high school did his passion for the piano kick back into high gear. First he attended a music technology camp at the University of Michigan and soon thereafter began taking lessons from inspirational teacher Victoria Wyatt in Annandale, Va., who rekindled Pham’s love of the piano and his gift for composition. “She saw a spark in me,” Pham says. “She showed me things about the piano that really made me admire the art of performance.” With the same fervor that took him to China, Pham turned his attention and energy toward applying to colleges with strong music programs.

As he began the application and auditioning process...
JMU teachers are incredible resources. They're really interested in teaching.

— Andrew Pham ('10)

(he applied to eight schools and directly to JMU and George Mason's music programs), he worried that his hiatus from serious study might hinder his chances of getting into a strong program. "Man, I was so far behind," reflects Pham. "My ear was pretty good, but I didn't have the chops for its focus on performance and education."

"I got such a positive feeling about the program and the faculty. I got such a positive feeling from the music professors," he recounts. "After my audition, Dr. Eric Ruple came up and talked to me and said, 'I think this would be a good place for you to come.'"

It was a heartfelt invitation that Pham gladly accepted.

Ruple was right. JMU turned out to be a great fit. Pham eschews the program and the faculty. "The teachers here are incredible resources. They're people really interested in teaching."

One thing Pham didn't expect was the range of opportunities that have come his way as a result of his commitment to his studies. "JMU gave me my first meaningful long-term job as the music theory tutor for the School of Music, which was a great professional opportunity," Pham says. "I had my share of leadership experience during my sophomore and junior years. I was first secretary and then president of the Keyboard Association." Through these offices he gained experience organizing a concert fundraiser and a trip to the Steinway factory in New York.

Last fall, Pham was approached by dance major Kelsey Hickson ('10) to write a piece based on Maternidad (a Pablo Neruda poem). Even though he was given only a week and a half to complete the composition, Pham accepted the challenge and gained valuable experience writing music to fit both the mood of the poem and Hickson's choreography. Pham confesses to the pressure he felt going down to the wire: "I was panic stricken. I finished right before the recording. In the end, the collaboration was one of my most gratifying experiences at JMU.

Learning to be a performer has been a blessing for Pham as well as his audiences at local churches, retirement homes, music festivals and his senior recital in May. "It's what makes me want to go to school. It doesn't even strike me as work, and it's all about learning."

Through all of this enjoyment in an art he cherishes, Pham has garnered plenty of academic laurels. He has taken first prize twice in JMU's Write On! Academic Writing Contest. His most notable academic honor came in the form of the Presser Scholarship — a prestigious award voted on by the faculty and given to the most outstanding junior in the School of Music. The $4,800 scholarship was a welcome surprise: "I remember shaking when I got that e-mail. It was confirmation that hard work pays off."

In addition to questions about calculus, her peers sometimes ask Kuhnley how she gets it all done. "I have really good time management skills and a lot of drive and ambition. Last semester, I had classes from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. but they were all completely different, so I stayed interested. I live on campus to be close to professors and other students, and I try to never turn down an opportunity."

Her life outside of academia includes intramural softball, dance classes at the University Recreation Center, a private reading club led by her freshman English professor and attending JMU Theater II performances. She also volunteers for Make Your Mark on Madison — a student leadership program that pairs freshmen with junior and senior mentors.

In the JMU Honors Program, Kuhnley is helping create another mentoring program that will begin in 2011.

Kuhnley is grateful to professors like Kander and Goodall because "they've experienced life and now they want to teach me about it."

Her advice to new JMU students: "Take advantage of the small-school feel. Form relationships with your professors and then work hard to match their efforts. . . . I want my professors to know that because of them, I love JMU."
Creating enlightened citizens

“Whether a faculty member or an undergraduate,” says music professor Amadi Azikiwe, “we are all students of life. Teachers should be actively pursuing the very thing they are teaching so they can serve as mentors and real-life examples.”

In the following interviews and conversations, Brad Jenkins (’99), general manager for The Breeze, talks with two professors and two alumni who prove that mentorship is a big part of the Madison Experience.

A love for the learning process

Professor-in-residence and violist Amadi Azikiwe helps students build life skills

Amadi Azikiwe, music professor and founder of the Harlem Symphony Orchestra, lives with freshman students and says the biggest rewards for teachers are giving students professional experiences and helping them come up with their own ideas.

Madison: You’ve been a musician your whole life, right?

Amadi Azikiwe: For as long as I can remember. My mom, uncle and birth father are all musicians. My mother taught music and founded music festivals. When I was 13, I played side by side a professional violist at the Winston-Salem Symphony. For several summers, I played alongside accomplished musicians at the Waterloo Music Festival in New Jersey. I was the youngest musician there for the three summers I went, and this was a good, good orchestra. One violist at the festival took me under his wing; he didn’t care how young I was.

Madison: And now you are doing the same thing with JMU students, both inside and outside music.

Azikiwe: Yes. A few years ago, I founded the Harlem Symphony Orchestra, and since then, I have taken several JMU students with me to perform alongside the professionals. And outside the music experience of preparing a piece through his eyes way before your time. You become more professional even in the eyes of your peers.

Madison: How important was being mentored at that age?

Azikiwe: When you work alongside a professional, you gain the
school, I work with students as a faculty member in residence.

**Madison:** Tell us more about the Harlem Symphony Orchestra.

**Azikiwe:** The idea goes back to when I was a young musician attending festivals with my mom. When I was 8, she was a soloist for a concert of the National Afro-American Philharmonic Orchestra. They only performed once, and I went with my mom. A few years later, mom founded the Gateway Music Festival in Winston-Salem. Its purpose was to highlight the contribution of orchestral musicians of African descent. In 2001, when I played at the Gateway festival, I started thinking: “What could be done to increase the frequency of the festival? Where was the best place? What says black American more than Harlem?”

I have done all aspects of orchestra work — conducting, raising funds, playing. So, I founded the Harlem Symphony Orchestra. After doing a small performance at a church in Harlem, the Apollo Theater heard about us, and they invited us to come perform. Right after that performance, they invited us back.

**Madison:** How do you pull the performances together?

**Azikiwe:** I contact the musicians, some of whom come from other parts of the country. I choose the repertoire and arrange rehearsal times. Basically, it's the stuff a music director would do. But then I also do publicity, like radio interviews. We send postcards to invite audiences. And we're raising funds, too, because the goal is to have one program every month. A normal orchestra has four programs a month. So, I'm reaching out to different foundations and arts supporters.

**Madison:** How do you get your students involved in the orchestra?

**Azikiwe:** For our 2004 performance, I asked a JMU cello player to join us. Two other times, I have invited percussionists. I want to give them an opportunity to perform in a professional setting, because whenever someone is successful in classical music, it's because they've had some kind of professional experience. It's rare to be hired right out of college for a professional orchestra.

**Madison:** What do students experience that they wouldn't on campus?

**Azikiwe:** At the Harlem Symphony Orchestra, we prepare our program and rehearse in four days. Of course, they get the music ahead of time, and everybody must be prepared before they arrive. I expect a lot of my students, and I expect it quickly. It's very high powered. I expect them to learn it in four days, and if they do, then they've done what they're supposed to do. Students do very well, and they ask me to let them know when they can come again. They come out of this experience with a sense of accomplishment, that now they know they can do this.

**Madison:** You're not just mentoring music students, though. You also live among students?

**Azikiwe:** Yes. I live in Eagle Hall, a seven-story freshmen residence. For 10 years, I've spent my summers working with students at arts schools and other programs; and at those experiences, students and professors lived and ate together. It's a way for me to be social and show students they can approach their teachers. When I came to JMU, it was a natural fit for me to be a faculty member in residence.

**Madison:** How do you connect with the students in Eagle?

**Azikiwe:** Just by being here. I saw a student studying for a test on World War II once, and I'm kind of a history buff, so I reviewed with her. It's not part of my job, but I expect a lot of my students, and I talk to students about their musical interests or find common interests. Sometimes, I have played concerts, and the students always ask when I'm doing it again.

Baldwin calls him Gomer Pyle because of the goofy look on his face — protects the shrimp, which is blind. The shrimp, meanwhile, digs out shelter for the two.

The creatures have adapted to protect each other, and each time she tells visitors about them, she is as enthusiastic as if it's the first. She hasn't only told the story before. She has lived it the past three years as she has guided Zach Foltz ('08) from an uncertain junior biology major trying to figure out how to break into marine biology into a promising scientist who just got his first job overseeing a Smithsonian-leased island off Belize.

Baldwin met Foltz in 2007, when she returned to JMU to speak at a symposium. Knowing Foltz was looking for an internship, a professor invited him to join Baldwin and other students for lunch. At the time, Foltz didn't know that Baldwin was a star in the marine biology world. She became especially popular in 1998 while starring as one of sev-

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**The Galapagos connection**

Carole Baldwin ('81) mentors Zach Foltz ('08) and helps him reel in his dream job

**By Brad Jenkins ('99)**

Before heading to her windowless office in the bowels of the Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., Carole Baldwin ('81) often stops at an aquarium that's part of an exhibit she helped create. Inside, colorful fish swim into crevices and over a sandy bottom. The orange, blue and yellow fish are the most eye-catching, but Baldwin spends much of her morning visiting watching one shrimp. It uses long, threadlike antennae and follows a bland-looking fish almost everywhere it goes. This fish —
Influencing global political discourse and bringing it to class

**History professor Shah Mahmoud Hanifi teaches students to think critically**

Author and renowned scholar Shah Mahmoud Hanifi is one of the nation’s few experts on Afghanistan. He is influencing global political discourse and bringing it directly to JMU classrooms.

**Madison:** You spent a spring 2010 sabbatical working on your second book about Afghanistan. How will this experience enhance relationships with your students?

**Shah Mahmoud Hanifi:** I enjoyed giving some talks this year that I am organizing around my forthcoming book *Knowing Afghanistan: The Epistemology of a Global Colonial Frontier*. In addition to preparing a few chapters and essays to appear in edited books and journals I have contracted with Stanford University Press for a paperback print version of my first book, *Connecting Histories in Afghanistan* and with I. B. Tauris for an edited volume, *Power Hierarchies and Hegemony in Afghanistan: State Building, Ethnic Minorities and Identity in Central Asia*. Through my research and publication efforts, I’m developing new ways of thinking about subject matters, which I’m anxious to convey to students who will in turn surely help me refine my thinking and writing about the things I’m trying to learn better.

**Madison:** You are an assiduous researcher and scholar. You could teach anywhere. What do you like about JMU’s teaching environment and direct contact with undergrads?

**Hanifi:** As a historian with transnational and global orientations,
the most appealing, and challenging, aspects of teaching at JMU are the geographical breadth and chronological depth. I push my students and myself to explore. My duties at JMU have prompted me to creatively use and branch out from my core interests in the economic impact of British Indian colonialism on 19th-century Afghanistan to engage a variety of issues including printing, literacy and bureaucracies in the region of the world between Casablanca and Calcutta since the rise of Islam. I appreciate the institutional space for comparative and interdisciplinary teaching at JMU, and my students help me think about material that in some instances I am learning afresh right along with them.

**Madison:** How do you transform the innate curiosity of JMU history students into disciplined, insightful and analytical investigation?

**Hanifi:** For understanding the Middle East, South Asia and the Islamic world, more broadly it is first and foremost necessary to de-exotize and humanize the people there. The next task is to expose students to the social and cultural complexity in this part of the world. The subsequent need is to address the ongoing interaction and changing relations between the multiple communities that interact across this wide zone. The final goal is for students to situate the Middle East, South Asia and the Islamic world in relation to the rest of the world.

**Madison:** How do you take someone from curious student to novice researcher to practiced historian?

**Hanifi:** That is the true reward of teaching. Students mature at different rates. However, one pattern that emerges among them is a moment when after exposure to considerable doses of local, regional and world history it dawns on students that knowledge is partial and full of inconsistencies and contradictions. This prompts them to realize that practical organization of information and careful interpretation of limited data are the keys to practicing history. The beauty of this maturation moment is that it renders the historian’s craft tangible and manageable for rapidly growing young minds. The period of this intellectual conjuncture can vary from a few weeks to a full semester. It entails students metaphorically “looking themselves in the mirror” and coming to terms with their own short-term limitations while also helping to frame their longer-term aspirations.

**Madison:** Talk about a time when you were able to engage with a student who has become an “expert” in a particular topic and feel that you have been enlightened.

**Hanifi:** The first student fitting this mold is John Adair Miller ('06, '09M). John is one of the many undergraduate history majors who have returned to JMU for graduate school, in his case a master’s degree in our emerging graduate program concentration in global history. He produced a first-rate thesis on Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan that taught me a lot about a place I thought I knew well. John is now pursuing a Ph.D. in history, focusing on Afghanistan, at Ohio State University. I also want to mention Claire Metcalfe (’08), whom I first encountered on a Study Abroad program in London. She wrote an award-winning senior honors thesis about the history of cholera in British Colonial India under my direction in the anthropology department. Claire returned to Europe for graduate work and earned an M.A. with honors in bioarchaeology at the University of London. She is now considering Ph.D. programs in paleoanthropology and paleoecology in England and Germany. I’ve learned quite a bit about the history of colonial medicine, physical anthropology and archaeology from Claire.

**Madison:** What first inspired you to your field? Do you see that same excitement in your students?

**Hanifi:** In some ways I was born into my field through an Afghan father and a Lebanese mother. However, in other ways my excitement about the history of the Middle East was triggered just as it is with my students. My commitment to history took shape over the course of a revolutionary few weeks as an undergraduate, when I started thinking critically about my particular niche as a burgeoning historian, career goals and my overall life aspirations.

**Madison:** By coordinating the minor in Middle Eastern communities and migrations, you get to collaborate across the university. What is attracting students to this minor?

**Hanifi:** I’m sure global events are attracting students to the minor, but one thing history teaches us is that times change and wars end. My long-term goal is to leave structures in place for academic knowledge to continue to flourish and remain in demand in a far less militarized context that I hope, perhaps against all odds, will develop domestically and globally sooner rather than later.

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‘I appreciate the institutional space for comparative and interdisciplinary teaching at JMU, and my students help me think about material that in some instances I am learning afresh right along with them.’

— Shah Mahmoud Hanifi

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*Learn more about Hanifi’s research at [www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/hanifi.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/hanifi.shtml).*
Making writing a reality

Dr. Gabbin helped me discover my inner writer  By Jessi Lewis ('09)

I remember the class when Dr. Gabbin read Nikki Giovanni’s poem *The Wrong Kitchen*; it captured me more than others. You could tell Dr. Gabbin loved the poem, too. It was the way she nodded at the end and shook her head like she had just tasted a divine, yet complicated, chocolate. Giovanni’s work made writing a reality for me, and so did Dr. Gabbin. Through her resourceful nature, Dr. Gabbin has brought Nikki Giovanni to campus several times. I met the poet who had actually managed to hook me and reel me in. To this day, I couldn’t be more grateful for that encounter.

It all began when I signed up for Dr. Gabbin’s African-American poetry class. I had no idea what I was diving into. I learned about Nikki Giovanni and a handful of African-American poets who, like Dr. Gabbin, believe in the honesty of writing. This class was a combination of literary theory, creative writing and an embrace of old and new poets. Dr. Gabbin had a way of taking multiple influences and melding them all into one overwhelming concept — how we view each other and ourselves. This wasn’t just poetry; it was a philosophy for life.

When you’re in a room with Dr. Gabbin, you take ease from her presence. She has a way of drawing attention. Even her enunciation draws you closer. This is how she speaks in her writing — her words gather together into a flow of confidence and strength.

Initially, I was shy in her class because I felt I could never match the intensity of her lectures. But, she took notice of me and my interest in writing poetry. At the time, I didn’t admit my interests. I didn’t even tell many people when I won the Furious Flower Poetry contest that year, but Dr. Gabbin paid attention.

I stumbled upon the Furious Flower Poetry Center during that contest and eventually took Dr. Gabbin’s offer of a short-term job after graduation. I learned more about her beyond the role of professor. I helped edit Dr. Gabbin’s books, including *Shaping Memories*, a collection of essays by African-American women, and *Mourning Katrina*, a collection of poems in response to the 2005 hurricane disaster in Louisiana. You don’t really know this professor until you’re in her office, working on her own words and the words of her friends and heroes. I felt as if I was changing something sacred, and I did it for hours with Dr. Gabbin checking on me regularly. This was my first job where I was respected for my professional talents. It was an invaluable feeling.

I’ve experienced just about everything that Dr. Gabbin gives to JMU — her collection of books, her connections to poets, her poetry camp for local children and her classes that wake up writers like me. I’ve managed to meet some famous writers, some writers on the way to the publishing house and some students who can only be headed in that direction. Dr. Gabbin surrounds herself with those who embrace their own power, and this makes you feel valuable even if you’re too young to understand your own talents. That is how I came to accept the writer that I am.

Jessi Lewis (’09) says that Furious Flower Poetry Center Director Joanne Gabbin helped her become a better writer. The pair takes a respite in the JMU arboretum.

About the Professor  Like the poetry she revels in, English professor and JMU Furious Flower Poetry Center Director Joanne Gabbin embodies the power to transform. Both of her pioneering Furious Flower Poetry conferences have advanced African-American poetry, celebrated achievement, and revealed pain and injustice. Hundreds of today’s poets laureates, elders, middle voices and emerging stars made the pilgrimage to JMU to participate, while the video anthology of this living history has reached classrooms around the world. For these and other achievements, Gabbin was inducted into the Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent in 2005. As former director of the Honors Program at JMU, Gabbin relied on teaching and poetry to do the hard work of consciousness-raising. Now, her teaching and leadership continue to transform the hearts, minds and attitudes of Madison students.

About the Author  Jessi Lewis (’09) earned her undergraduate degree in English and is completing a master’s in the JMU Writing Rhetoric and Technical Communication Department. She is a graduate assistant and will teach the General Education Writing course this fall. Last year she worked with the Centennial Scholars program and as the editor of Prinam Lux, which is published by the Office of Special Assistant to the President. Lewis grew up in the mountains of Clarke County, Va., and she enjoys kayaking, picking blueberries and, as always, writing.
Mixed Media

Books

Design and Implementation of Educational Games: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives
EDITED BY PAVEL ZEMLIANSKY AND DIANE WILCOX
IGI GLOBAL, 2010
ISBN: 13- 9781615207817
Technology-driven games are becoming increasingly prevalent, and this reference initiates new principles for game designers, educators, and researchers. JMU writing, rhetoric, and technical communication professor Pavel Zemliansky and education programs professor Diane Wilcox developed this extensive reference for scholars and professionals seeking the most comprehensive understanding of educational game design. New technology developments bring demand for new “edutainment” game practices, and designers seek to better understand how technology can boost learning.

Henry VIII and His Afterlives
EDITED BY MARK RANKIN
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2009
Henry VIII remains one of the most fascinating, notorious, and recognizable monarchs in English history. In the five centuries since his accession to the throne, myriad media outlets have shaped his iconic status. JMU English professor Mark Rankin reassesses treatments of Henry VIII in literature, politics, and culture during the period spanned by the king’s own reign (1509–1547) and the 21st century. Historians and literary scholars investigate how representations of the king provoked varied responses from influential writers, artists, and political figures in the centuries following his death. Individual chapters consider interrelated responses to Henry’s character and policies during his lifetime; his literary and political afterlife; his impact on art and popular culture, and his debated place in historiography.

Food Lover’s Guide to Brooklyn
BY SHERRI EISENBERG (’96)
MORRIS BOOK PUBLISHING (SELF-PUBLISHED), 2010
Sherri Eisenberg (’96) gives the inside scoop on the best places to find and enjoy Brooklyn’s culinary offerings. Written for residents and visitors alike, Eisenberg identifies producers and purveyors of local specialties, and offers a feast of food-related information. She covers food festivals and culinary events, specialty food shops, farmers’ markets, farm stands, and recipes using local ingredients and traditions.

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The Insider’s Guide to High School: A Parent’s Handbook for the Ninth Grade Year
By Tim Healey (’89) And Alex Carter (’94)
VANDAMERE PRESS, 2010
Experts agree that ninth grade, typically a student’s first in high school, is the most important year of high school. Many call this the “make it or break it year.” Research shows that if students complete their ninth grade year in good standing, they are 20 times more likely to reach graduation than someone who fails to advance to 10th grade the first time. The ninth grade year is also a critical period for parents, as they must learn to approach their “children” as teenagers, while still maintaining the necessary control and guidance to ensure their directed growth and success. Tim Healey (’89) and Alex Carter (’94), a National Milken Educator, have almost 40 years of combined experience as educators. Their book provides parents with an insider’s view on how to best prepare, support and coach a rising ninth-grader for success in high school. Healey and Carter presented their book at the 2010 National School Board Conference.

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The Journal Junkies Workshop: Visual Ammunition for the Art Addict
By David Modler (’09M) And Eric Scott
NORTHLIGHT BOOKS, 2010
David Modler (’09M) shows how to document your life with a visual journal. He demonstrates a variety of art techniques and shows how you can translate your thoughts into a journal. Step-by-step instructions include everything from drawing and doodling to watercolor and stenciling.

Landini Cadence
By Hal Howland (’73)
BLACK ROSE BOOKS, 2010
ISBN: 978-1-935605-27-0
In the third novel by Hal Howland (’73), Key West homicide detective Rich Castillo is handed nine consecutive murder cases. All are connected and show the dark side of paradise. Victoria Landini’s colorful family, an army of cultural spin doctors, and the world’s worst Christian rock band enliven this portrait of a tourist town, with side trips to Miami, Washington, D.C., Holland, and Wales.

Miss Sue Lucky’s Fishin’ Secrets: Grandpa’s Wisdom in a Book
By Eric Jerome Brown (’94)
KMB A ENTERPRISES LLC (SELF-PUBLISHED), 2010
ISBN: 978-1453661174
Miss Lucky is known as the best fisherwoman in the tri-county area when she decides to teach Ruby Gray how to fish. In one day, Ruby learns more about life, perseverance and love than most learn in a lifetime. Eric Jerome Brown (’94) based his book on his great-great-great grandmother Miss Sue “Lucky” Williams of Oak Park, Va.

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2010

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Orderly Places
BY MARY FRANCES BALLARD (’67)
MORGAN JAMES PUBLISHING (SELF-PUBLISHED), 2010
ISBN: 9781600376849
Most people can easily organize their e-mail and meetings on a phone or computer. Unfortunately, these organizational tools can’t help anyone remember to pay the electric bill or pick up a child at school. Rather than face an unmanageable household or an exhausting schedule, people often focus more on cleaning and sifting through disorderly piles of mail rather than building supportive relationships and engaging in activities they love. Using humor, Orderly Places shows ways to regain control over clutter and disorder and how to make time to live a more enriching life. ★ www.orderlyplaces.com/

The Translator’s Diary
BY JON PINEDA (’94)
NEW ISSUES POETRY & PROSE, 2008
Pineda’s second collection of poetry won the 2007 Green Rose Prize in Poetry, awarded to an author who has previously published at least one full-length book of poems. “Pineda’s poems have something of the quiet grace and lyric precision of James Wright. He possesses a similar ability to wrest celebration from the elegiac,” writes David Wojahn, author, editor and professor of English at Indiana University. ★ www.jonpineda.com

Web Project Management for Academic Libraries
BY JENNIFER A. KEECH (’91)
AND JODY CONDIT FAGAN
CHANDOS PUBLISHING, 2009
This book outlines best practices for managing successful projects related to creating and maintaining an academic library website. Practical, real-world solutions help web project managers engage stakeholders and lead organizations through change. Topics include the definition and responsibilities of a web project manager, effective communication practices, designing project workflow, usability testing and quality control. ★ www.woodheadpublishing.com

Your Gnomometown Cookbook: Heinzelmännchen Brewery’s Favorite Recipes
EDITED BY ELIZABETH “BETTY” WALKER RUDY (’58)
BAREFOOT PRESS (SELF-PUBLISHED), 2009
ISBN: 978-0-578-04289-3
Betty Walker Rudd (’58) compiled the recipes for this brewery cookbook, which features 43 recipes and practical tips for cooking with beer. The brewery name comes from the tales of gnome-like creatures found in Germany’s Black Forest, and Rudd shares the legend of the Heinzelmännchen. ★ www.yourgnometownbrewery.com/index.htm

Congratulations
Richard T. Deadrick, Madison’s 2010 “What are you Reading?” contest winner
Richard Deadrick is married to Mary Louise Kile Deadrick, a 1974 alumna. He writes, “The Bridges of Madison County is a love story that takes place in the farmland of Iowa, and it is both personal and seductive. I chose this book because of the quality of the story and the brilliant production of the movie. Never before have I seen a movie that so closely parallels the book. The characters are down-to-earth people falling in love by misadventure and circumstance. It was hard for the children of Francesca to believe that their mother could have fallen so much in love with someone other than their father.” ★ Thanks for your entry, Richard!
Your personal copy of Madison College: The First Fifty Years and a Madison tote bag are in the mail.

READERS: What book — classic or current — would you like to see reviewed by a JMU professor? Tell us at madisonmag@jmu.edu. If the magazine publishes a review of your book choice, you will receive a prize. Happy reading!
Alumni News

Coats and tails  Road Dawg polished up his studded collar and pressed his cape for the lavish nuptials of Christopher Crawford ('05) and Ashley Johnson Crawford ('05). The computer information systems major and marketing major wed on June 13. Everyone’s favorite party crasher, Road Dawg, took time out for a photo at the couple’s reception in Colonial Heritage in Williamsburg, Va. With the newlyweds are: Second row (l-r): Morgan Neil Kruck ('06), Christine Chow Carter ('04), Sean Calihan ('04) and Megan Crawford ('11). Third row (l-r): Greg Kruck ('05), Michael Carter ('04), Scott Hardingham ('04), Megan Sette ('04) and Brian Nido ('04). Fourth row (l-r): Jeff McKee ('05), Hannah Martinson McKee ('05), Elizabeth McBroom Javier-Wong ('04), John-Paul Javier-Wong ('03), Jennifer High Johnson ('91), John Joseph Johnson ('76), Kathy Opar Johnson ('78) and Lauren Maguire ('05). Fifth row (l-r): Thomas Seaford ('03), Matt Whitehurst ('04), Daniel Dunlap ('06), Katie Shaffer ('09), Terry Johnson Reynolds ('78) and Leigh-Ann Johnson ('08, '09M). Sixth row (l-r): John Bascom ('06), Erin Sprouse Bascom ('06), Dennis Carter ('02), Nicole Biel Carter ('03), Todd Moore ('08), Megan Johnson ('07), Lisa Talley ('08), Brandon Eickel ('08), Linda Johnson Bradley ('94), Ryan Haushalter ('06) and Kathleen Krohn ('05).
Welcome to the JMU Alumni Association
By AJ Fischer ('92), president, JMU Alumni Association Board

On behalf of the JMU Alumni Association Board of Directors, I congratulate JMU’s May 2010 graduates — the newest alumni of Madison. I attended graduation ceremonies this year, and it brought back great memories and created excitement for the future of the alumni association. We have more than 100,000 alumni, and the JMU Alumni Association’s centennial anniversary is next year.

When this year’s graduates reach my age, and I like to think I’m still young, our alumni base will be more than 200,000 strong. Imagine future Homecoming football games with that many more alumni to cheer on the Dukes! Thankfully, we’re expanding Bridgeforth Stadium now. Imagine driving down I-81 and I-64 and seeing all those JMU license plates. VDOT may have to add some more digits to the current plate design.

Imagine the network of alumni in all types of professions all over the world. We’ll be able to connect with them via social media that have not even been created yet. Imagine even more cities having alumni chapters with events the size of the Richmond and D.C. Crabfests.

Currently, the alumni association connects with alumni and extends the Madison Experience through Homecoming, Legacy Scholarships funded by license plates, the Alumni Professional Network and active alumni chapters. Don’t miss this year’s Homecoming, get a JMU license plate if you don’t already have one, network with other alumni and get involved with or start a chapter in your area. Stay connected and go Dukes!

Thank you alumni leaders
The Madison community and alumni association members express gratitude to the following alumni whose terms on the JMU Alumni Association Board of Directors ended in June.
Margot Knight ('74) served five years on the board, two as treasurer. Scott Thornhill ('78) served six years and was chair of the strategic planning and marketing committees. Joe Showker ('79) served two years as the board’s presidential appointee.

New Be the Change blog
By Martha Bell Graham

Every day, inspiring JMU students, alumni, professors, staff members and friends are changing the world. Now there is a way to keep up with all they are doing. The Be the Change blog is the perfect platform for sharing the hundreds of ways JMU people are giving of themselves to create a better world. The blog features big stories and little stories, innovations around the globe and next door, heroic exploits and heart-warming stories.

You might read about a young man with Down syndrome who is changing people’s perspective on his condition or a woman helping rebuild Afghanistan’s agricultural sector. There are the musicians who take classical music to students in remote rural areas and a doctor who sits down with Bill Moyers to discuss health care issues. The Be the Change blog features something new every week — interesting and inspiring people, innovative work and Be the Change updates. Get in on the conversations or tell us about those JMU Be the Changers we haven’t heard about yet. Add your comments and follow along as JMU changes the world.

Get connected at http://jmubethechange.wordpress.com/

Family Weekend
OCT. 1–3, 2010
Get a taste of JMU campus life and the Madison Experience

Learn more and register for events at www.jmu.edu/parents/
Alumna takes 2010 Miss Virginia crown

By Michelle Hite (’88)

Caitlin Uze (’10) was crowned Miss Virginia 2010 during the 75th-anniversary Miss Virginia pageant on June 26. She was crowned by another Duke, Miss Virginia 2009 Chinah Helmandollar (’09). Read more on Page 68.

The third time was the charm for Uze, an Arlington, Va., native, who competed as Miss Greater Richmond. She placed in the top 10 in the 2008 Miss Virginia pageant and also was last year’s second runner-up. Along with the 2010 crown, she won a $16,500 scholarship and an additional $500 for winning the swimsuit competition. She won the swimsuit title all three years she competed for the Miss Virginia title.

Uze’s talent is Irish dancing and her pageant platform is “building positive self-image.” She says she chose this platform since she had to overcome a slight lisp. “It shows that no one is perfect,” she says. During her Miss Virginia reign, Uze plans to work with young students and film a documentary about self-esteem.

![Miss Virginia 2010](image)

Peggy Fridley (’79): Summer 1975. I remember humming the theme to The Mary Tyler Moore Show — a lot! “I’m going to make it after all!”

Liz McLean (’85): I have standout memories from our legacy daughter’s Orientation. She will graduate from JMU in 2011. Here’s a bit of a great skit the parents learned: “Take the bus! Get a job! Change your sheets!”

Jim Jenkins (’83): Summer of ’79 — it was awe inspiring. I met a really great man for the first of many times: Uncle Ron, aka Dr Carrier.

Holli Bazzle McConnell (’95): I was a transfer student in 1993 and enjoyed that first day on campus. I was lucky to meet a fellow transfer who became a great friend.

Celeste Kelly (’73): Absolutely! A long time ago — 1969 — and we all had to wear little purple beanies! Met lots of people who became great friends and still are.
Mahogany Memoirs

Black Alumni Chapter recognizes first African-American graduates

By Jacquelyn Walsh ('09)

While the entire 2010 Black Alumni Reunion Weekend in April was especially memorable, one event sticks out in many of the chapter members’ minds: the Madison Mahogany Memoirs semi-formal ball or M3 Ball.

The signature event was an evening of elegance, honor and reunion. Alumni came together to celebrate the presence of African-Americans within the JMU community, including students, alumni, professors and staff members.

The program honored James D. Rankin Jr. ('71), who is married to Saranna Tucker Rankin ('72), and Sheary Darcus Johnson ('70) the first male and female African-American students to graduate from JMU. Johnson is married to Rev. Russell T. Johnson ('74).

“It’s humbling to be honored, but I don’t know that it took a monumental effort. All we did was graduate. Making history was never my intent,” says James Rankin, of New Market, Va.

“It’s important to give recognition and acknowledge their contributions,” says Diane Strawbridge ('80, '02M), director of student retention for the JMU Centennial Scholars Program. “They paved the way for us and for lots of other students.”

After graduating, Sheary Darcus Johnson ('70), the first African-American student to enroll at JMU, continued her education, earning an M.S. in 1974 and her doctorate from University of Virginia. During the alumni reunion, she explored the ever-changing campus. “Just being on campus in the last couple of weeks has been mind boggling. It has grown so much.”

The M3 Ball also honored the legacy families of Forrest Parker Sr. and Forrest Parker Jr. and the Rankin family and their son Jeremy ('04). Kevin J. White ('91, '95M), from JMU’s inter-collegiate athletics, and Edgar Ausberry ('74), a member of the first JMU football team in 1972, were also recognized.

JMU President Linwood H. Rose honored the families, alumni and professors, and congratulated and thanked them for helping pave the way for African-American students at JMU. “Having our very first male and female African-American graduates in attendance made the night very special for all who participated,” said Rose. “The affection for JMU, the sharing of such positive experiences, and the connection with the mission of the university combined to produce a very emotional evening.”

Monyette Martin ('93, '96M), regional assistant director of admissions in Richmond, says the night was about bringing together the past, present and future. “I think these graduates and the people we’re honoring really raised the bar and paved the way to where we are today, particularly for students of color.”

Attendees streamed steadily into the Montpelier Room, above the new 700-seat East Campus Dining Hall, dressed in their best cocktail dresses and suits. Old friends quickly became reacquainted and occasionally stepped onto the patio overlooking the JMU arboretum.

The cumulative weekend of events, referred to as Madison Mahogany Memoirs, included everything from an alumni golf outing to campus tours, basketball tournament and Sunday worship. The purpose of the event was to help those affiliated with JMU to become more knowledgeable of its African-American history, according to Desirea Moore-Mitchell ('94), one of four M3 Project committee members. Andrea Robinson Jones ('94), her husband Randy Jones ('93) and Rev. John Mitchell Jr. ('93) also served on the committee.

“I think events like this are important because it reconfirms our history at JMU,” says Deirdre Bland ('93) of Northern Virginia.

Andrea Jones ('94) adds, “The M3 Ball not only recognizes our history at JMU, but the most important aspect of the event was to reignite a spirit of giving back.”

Randy Jones says the Black Alumni Chapter has started an 18-month campaign to raise $1 million for the Black Alumni Chapter Scholarship. “The whole purpose of the ball was to remind everybody at JMU about our rich history here.”

The Mahogany Memoirs reunion was an “unprecedented” event for the Black Alumni Chapter, says Moore-Mitchell. “I think that the Black Alumni Chapter has a renewed commitment to give scholarships and endowments. It gave the JMU African-American community a renewed strength and vitality.”

President Rose agreed, “The Madison Mahogany Memoirs reunion may have been the finest event of its type that I have had the pleasure to attend as president. The planners did an exceptional job of balancing personal reflections and success stories with information about the development and history of the university.”

I think these graduates and the people we’re honoring really raised the bar and paved the way … particularly for students of color.’

— Monyette Martin ('93, '96M)
Leadership Conference

Madison Alumni Conference

More than 50 alumni leaders and volunteers returned to campus in June for the third-annual Madison Alumni Conference. Participants came from as far as Washington state and Texas, and enjoyed a weekend of leadership and learning. On Saturday night, Master of Ceremonies J.R. Snow (‘99, ’08M) presented the 2010 conference awards:

- Chapter Leader of the Year: Megan Hogan, Charlotte Alumni Chapter
- Alumni Chapter of the Year: Rocky Mountain Dukes
- Alumni Volunteer of the Year: Margaret Mullin, Pacific Northwest Chapter
- Most Improved Chapter: Tampa Bay Alumni Chapter


Duke Dog congratulates eight alumni chapter leaders and the 2010 Madison Alumni Conference award winners for chapter leader, alumni volunteer and alumni chapter of the year. More than 50 alumni visited campus in June for the third Madison Alumni Conference.

Madison Events

August 25
2010 JMU Family Legacy Picnic (for freshman legacies)

September 18
Metro Dukes Chapter Crabfest

September 18
Annual Craig Blass Memorial Golf Tournament

October 1–3
Family Weekend 2010
www.jmu.edu/parents

October 15–17
Homecoming 2010
www.jmu.edu/homecoming

November 5–6
Class of 1970 Reunion

December 18
Winter Commencement

April 28–30, 2011
Class of 1961’s 50th Reunion, Bluestone Reunion Weekend
www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

For more information on events, please call the JMU alumni office toll free 1- (888) JMU-ALUM

Alumni News

2010

Make plans now to be in the ‘Burg! www.jmu.edu/homecoming/

You don’t want to miss the
Alumni Golf Tournament • Forbes Center for the Performing Arts open house
Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally • Tailgating and JMU vs. New Hampshire
Class reunions and the CMSS Step Show

Check the website for a full schedule of events and hotel listings.
Make plans to be back in the ’Burg
Class of 1970 reunion, Homecoming 2010 and Bluestone Society lunches for Class of 1961

Class of 1970
Reunion is Nov. 5–6

Are you a member of the Class of 1970? Make your plans now to hit campus for your 40th reunion. The alumni association has already started planning the festivities. Visit www.jmu.edu/alumni or contact the alumni office for more information.

Homecoming
Reunions are
Oct. 15–17

This year, the alumni association opened reunions to groups interested in hosting get-togethers during Homecoming. Guess which groups have planned special reunions? The Classes of 1985 and 2000; SCOM, Catholic Campus Ministries; Sigma Phi Epsilon; Dukes Abroad; the Black Alumni Chapter and Greek alumni. Are you a member of any of these groups? Make plans now to attend Homecoming: www.jmu.edu/homecoming.

Bluestone Society
Regional Lunches
honor Class of 1961

Members of the Class of 1961 got a jump-start on their 50th reunion planned for next spring. To gear up for the Class of 1961’s big 5-0, the JMU Alumni Association hosted two regional gatherings in the classmates’ honor.

These casual lunches gave classmates a chance to reconnect and start making plans for 2011 Bluestone Reunion Weekend. Richmond, Va., area 1961 classmates met for lunch on Aug. 10 in Short Pump, Va.; and eastern Virginia area alumni enjoyed lunch together on Aug. 11 at the Tidewater Luncheon in Smithfield Station, Va.

If you are interested in helping to plan a lunch or other alumni event for your area, please contact Stephanie Whitson in the JMU Office of Alumni Relations at (540) 568–8821.

Bluestone Reunions

Members of the Classes of 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955 and 1960 reconnected their Bluestone friendships during Bluestone Reunion Weekend, April 29 – May 1. The Class of 1960 joined the Bluestone Society, which honors alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. In honor of their 50th reunion, class members made a gift of $838,613 to JMU. Reunion participants and their spouses visited the new Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, enjoyed class dinners and photos, shared their rule-breaking memories in the Madison Confessional, toured campus with Student Ambassadors, visited the arboretum and shared memorabilia. More than 300 classmates reconnected and shared stories of grandchildren legacies now attending JMU.

(Above): JMU President Linwood H. Rose congratulates Bluestone Society members Ophelia Printz (’35) and Virginia McNeil Null (’35) on their 75th reunion.

(Right): JMU Board of Visitors member Judith Strickler (’60) listens as a classmate shares during the Madison Confessional program in the Leeolou Center.
Duke Dog tours East Coast

This spring, Duke Dog took a road trip to visit alumni groups and friends up and down the East Coast. Teamed with Kevin Gibson ('05) and Alan Maynard ('06) from the JMU Office of Alumni Relations, the trio traveled to 10 states in six days and covered 1,277 miles, spreading the Purple Pride. Check out photos and a video of the trip at www.facebook.com/JMUAlumni. Duke Dog’s new pals include Kevin Fleming ('00), Hartford Chapter president; Allison Miracco ('02) and Heather Olsen ('05), Boston Chapter leaders; Deron ('98) and Megan Murphy ('02) from the Rhode Island Chapter; Sam Brodowski ('01), New York Chapter president; and Rebekah Porter ('03), Baltimore Chapter president.

23rd Annual JMU Hall of Fame Dinner

Sponsored by JMU Athletics

JMU Festival Conference & Student Center ■ Oct. 14 ■ During Homecoming Week

GRAND BALLROOM ■ BLACK TIE OPTIONAL ■ COCKTAILS AT 6 p.m. ■ FOUR-COURSE DINNER & PROGRAM AT 7 p.m. ($45—INDIVIDUALS ■ $85—COUPLE ■ $325—TABLE OF EIGHT)

2010 Hall of Fame Inductees

Lindsay Collingwood ('01), Volleyball
Samantha Bates Floyd ('99), Track & Field
Ryan Frost ('97), Men’s Swimming
Clyde Hoy ('82), Football
Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe ('97), Lacrosse
Pat McSorley ('96), Men’s Soccer
Brooks Teal, Men’s Swimming Coach

VISIT THE JMU HALL OF FAME ONLINE AT JMUSPORTS.COM BY CLICKING UNDER THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT LINK

Taking a bite out of the Big Apple. (Above): Duke Dog visited several alumni leaders along the East Coast during spring semester. He thanked chapter leaders in New York City and Boston during a six day trip that covered 10 states and 1,277 miles. (Left): Alan Maynard ('06) meets Matthew Sullivan from Boston University alumni networks. Check out Duke Dog’s video on the alumni association’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JMUAlumni.
60 also writes for Splash magazine, a Virginia Beach publication. Jeavons graduated cum laude in 1982 with a degree in communication arts. She later studied at the Sorbonne University of Paris, and she currently lives and works in Paris. David Johnson graduated in 1979, also with a degree in communication arts, and his son Ben Johnson ('11) is a rising senior.

53 Harry Jeavons, aka Eric Stevens, writes reviews for Cabaret Scenes magazine. He also writes for Splash magazine, a Virginia Beach publication. Jeavons says the most fun he’s had with reviews was “covering the Four Freshmen last fall on a Caribbean cruise.” Four songs Jeavons wrote were featured in a musical in Ocean City, Md., this summer. He says that he is happy to provide lead sheets for any of his original songs.

54 Barbara Martin Hall moved to Maryville, Tenn., to be closer to her son and his family. She writes, “Maryville is a small college town with a brand new fine arts building fit for a king. I look forward to many concerts.”

60 In March, Tony Bonanno of Santa Fe, N.M., was the contract photographer for an Annie Liebowitz event at the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum. He says, “In all my years of shooting, this was one of the most fan intense shoots I have done: A couple of hundred special guests attended the book signing and the reception at Andrew Smith Gallery. This was followed by a packed house of more than 700 at the Lensic Theater who heard Annie speak about her life and work as a photographer. The night ended with the presentation of the Museum’s Women of Distinction Award.” Bonanno was a physical science major and long-term U.S. Park Service employee. See his photographs at www.bonannophoto.com.

68 The New Science Teachers Support Network Celebration at George Mason University recognized Charles Edward Horne for his “valuable contributions in training physics teachers.” He has been coaching new physics teachers at high schools in Fairfax and Prince William County schools since his retirement from Prince William county schools in 2000.

74 Rhonda L. Alley was named a 2009–10 Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher in Loudoun County public schools.

75 Mary Emnie Fisher received the 2009 Spirit of Caring Award from the United Way of Champaign County in Illinois for her work in capacity building for nonprofit organizations. Fisher was a co-founder and president of DEMACO Inc., a software development firm in Champaign, Ill. The company was purchased by SAIC in 1998. Since that time, she has worked with nonprofit businesses in strategic planning, board governance, volunteer recruitment and retention. Fisher has performed with several professional choral ensembles including the Choral Arts Society of Washington, D.C., the Fairfax County Concert Choir, Prairie Voices, Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana, the Berkshire Choral Festival and the University of Illinois Oratorio Society.

77 After teaching elementary school for 20 years, Kimberly Horner Ulan established Smooth Transitions of Central Virginia. Her Charlottesville-area business helps seniors downsize, coordinate a move to a new home or dispose an estate.

81 Scott Eichelberger and Michelle Davis Eichelberger ('82) have been practicing pediatric medicine together for 20 years in Chesapeake. Both attended Eastern Virginia Medical School and studied pediatric medicine at East Carolina University School of Medicine. The Health Journal has profiled the Eichelbergers. *Deborah Diehl Hawkins* has a son, Ross ('14), who is a freshman at JMU. He is majoring in history and plans to earn a master’s in education. He hopes to teach history and government.

Continued on Page 63

*Note: The asterisks indicate that the individuals mentioned are alumni of James Madison University.*
As a kid, the idea of the water’s unknown depth frightened Amanda Williams (’04). As she grew up, those fears abated only to reappear with an opportunity to become scuba certified while she was a student at JMU. “I had nightmares about drowning or various creatures I might encounter,” admits Williams.

She more than overcame her fears. The geographic science major works for the Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation and has been on countless scuba trips around the world. The foundation, named after His Royal Highness Prince Khaled bin Sultan of Saudi Arabia, focuses on ocean conservation and restoration, something Williams became fascinated with at a young age.

In fifth grade, she created a water pollution video for a class project. The assignment opened her eyes to the environmental problems facing the world today, from global warming to the depletion of natural resources. While vacationing at the beach with her family, she became more aware of her surroundings and the effects of the ocean. “I started noticing changes in the beach width, litter and increasing storm damage to homes,” she says.

Starting her undergraduate studies as an international business major and Spanish and music minor, Williams focused on other interests outside of oceanography. But her cousin, a water quality biologist for the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, pointed her toward the geographic science department. Williams switched majors and knew she had found her calling. She completed several Study Abroad trips, including one to Baja California Sur, Mexico, where she studied sea turtles and marine protected areas.

It is the peace of the ocean that draws Williams to it. “The silence of the ocean beneath the surface is really quite shocking,” she says. That’s quite ironic coming from a former Marching Royal Duke drumline member. “It’s so quiet you can hear parrotfish chomping away at corals and macro-algae,” she adds.

The small, colorful fish and bright undulating coral reefs give Williams hours of fascinated pleasure when she goes on scuba dives. It’s not always peaceful and serene, though, carrying 40 pounds of equipment during dives can be strenuous, and sometimes the choppy water causes her some anxiety. “Otherwise, every time I get in the water, I can’t wait to chill out and explore Planet Ocean,” Williams says.

The people she meets while traveling make her experiences even more worthwhile. Their shared interests in oceanography and preservation inspired Williams to pursue her current job with the Living Oceans Foundation. “Fellow divers and conservationists don’t want to lose what they love, which is seeing many different species of fish, coral and other reef creatures,” Williams explains. “Nobody wants a boring dive.”

While finishing her thesis for a master’s degree, Williams stumbled upon the open GIS analyst position with the foundation. She e-mailed the executive director and was hired within two weeks. At first, the experience was a whirlwind. She juggled her thesis and a full-time job, but Williams maintains that it’s not every day that your “dream job” comes along. “When it does, you snatch it up.”

As a GIS analyst, she works with data that she and three other full-time foundation members gather on various expeditions, including trips to Seychelles, the Red Sea, the Bahamas and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The foundation is planning a 2011–14 Global Reef Expedition which partners with teachers and scientists worldwide to assist in the understanding and management of coral reefs.

Though she was once frightened of the water’s depth, and was once an international business major, Williams has followed the current her life has taken her on and enjoyed every minute of it.

More photos at www.gis.jmu.edu/features/amandawilliams.html.
Helping secure the vote in Afghanistan

By Sara Riddle ('10)

Army 1st Lt. Tyler Moyer ('08) grew up in Washington state with a family full of business professionals. He never dreamed he would one day join the Army. After completing his high-school education at Fishburne Military School, an all-male military school in Waynesboro, Va., Moyer needed to find a way to pay for college. After succeeding in a military setting, he found it fitting to join the Virginia National Guard. And that is where he found his passion. During his five years at JMU, Moyer served in the Virginia National Guard and was later commissioned as an active duty officer in the Army.

Moyer graduated from JMU in May 2008 and three months later reported to Fort Sill, Okla., for the Officer Basic Course, a mandatory seven-week course for all officers. Following OBC, he attended Field Artillery School at Fort Sill and graduated from the math intensive course on Feb. 9, 2009. He then received orders for a 12-month deployment in Afghanistan with Baker Company, 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. He came home in February 2010.

“In Afghanistan I was tasked with many small jobs other than what I was trained for, but they turned into big contributions,” says Moyer. He worked closely with all nine interpreters assigned at his base and handled all humanitarian aid supplies. As platoon leader, Moyer was tasked with tons of paperwork but, more importantly, he served as the company’s fire support officer.

In this role, Moyer represented his company for all indirect support including aircraft, attack helicopters, mortar fire, artillery fire and Navy gunfire. “Prior to missions, it was my job to evaluate the route and ensure our indirect support (mortar and artillery) was laid in our direction so we could get responsive fire,” says Moyer. “If our element were to get ambushed or attacked, my forward observer or I would radio for a fire mission, which would include sending our current location, enemy location and other essential information.”

Moyer has found that there is a “huge difference between the Army training and real combat rules.” The first time he was in a firefight — about two months into his deployment — a rocket-propelled grenade was shot at his vehicle. Fortunately, it missed by a couple of meters. Machine gun fire was being fired from both directions, and Moyer had to jump out of the vehicle and find cover. He and the noncommissioned officer guide returned 19 shots of high explosive rounds into the hilltops from where they were taking fire. “I was able to do the job I was trained for,” says Moyer.

One of his proudest achievements was helping provide safety for the 2009 Afghanistan presidential election. In an e-mail to his family, Moyer described his mission: “It feels good to be able to take a shower after our 10-day mission to Gayan to secure the presidential election. It has been crazy here with many attacks by the Taliban because they wanted to disrupt the elections and keep the people from gaining any rights or government aid. Two helicopters flew my platoon (about 35 guys) to our small outpost in Gayan. We started out planning for the nine polling sites that we needed to recon and secure. With two platoons of infantry, we had one platoon go 5,000 meters to the south to secure the southern polling sites, while another platoon stayed at Munoz, in the city of Gayan. The leadership at Munoz, myself included, had to speak with the sub-governor and the district field coordinator to make sure we had all we needed from polling equipment to security. Before the elections kicked off, we got rocketed and attacked multiple times and shot at from the nearby mountains. Our mission was successful, and the elections were able to take place with no serious injuries.”

Currently stationed at Ft. Richardson, Ala., Moyer hopes to be transferred to Korea in the future. His reasoning, surprisingly, has nothing to do with the military. “I was adopted. During my 15-day block leave from Afghanistan, I traveled to Korea to meet my birth father and the Korean family that I never knew about,” he says. “I hope to stay in the military and learn about my past at the same time. Family should be, and is, my No. 1 priority.”

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2010
directed the Florida Gulf Coast University PGA Golf Management Program. The psychology major played women’s golf at JMU for four years. She most recently served as head professional at the Tatnuck Country Club in Worcester, Mass., from 2003 to 2009.

90 Navy reserve Cmdr. Eric Matthew Hurt was awarded the Bronze Star in March 2010 for his actions as officer in charge of the Central Criminal Court of Iraq and as legal adviser to the deputy commanding general for Detainee Operations in 2009 and 2010. Hurt, who volunteered for recall to service in Iraq, led an office of more than 40 attorneys, paralegals and linguists responsible for prosecuting terrorists captured by coalition forces in Iraq. Following his tour in Iraq, Hurt returned to his civilian job as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia.

91 Cara Ellen Modisett’s Fall 2009 Madison magazine story, “JMU’s unique home in the Shenandoah Valley,” won first place in the features category of the Virginia Press Women’s annual state competition. Her story will now compete at the national level. Modisett won three additional Virginia Press Women awards for her work as editor of Blue Ridge Country: first place honors for publications regularly edited, section editing for Mountain Report and Web photography for the RidgeLines blog. In May, Modisett transitioned to editor-at-large for Blue Ridge Country. “I am stepping back to part-time work to pursue an M.F.A. in creative nonfiction at Goucher College,” Modisett says. She will also pursue her love of music, teaching and freelance radio reporting for WVTF public radio.

92 Maj. David Bashaw was awarded the Bronze Star in January 2010 for meritorious service during his deployment to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dondi Simon competed in the 34th Marathon de Paris in April 2010. His official time was 4:50:37, and he placed 22,567th out of more than 31,000 competitors. The marathoners ran along the Champs-Elysées and were cheered on by 250,000 spectators and 80 live music concerts along the streets of Paris.

93 In March 2009, the Charlotte Business Journal named Greg Pappanastos one of “Charlotte’s 40 Under 40,” a list of prominent individuals committed to professional excellence and community involvement. In October 2009, Charlotte Business Leader magazine named him to its “Movers & Shakers” list. Pappanastos completed Ironman Cozumel on Nov. 29, 2009. It was his second time completing a full-distance triathlon. The Ironman consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2-mile marathon. Approximately 2,200 people competed in the first-time event for the host city. Pappanastos was recently named president of the board of Charlotte Trolley, a private non-profit organization devoted to educating the public about Charlotte’s streetcar history.

94 John Cadigan earned tenure as assistant professor of economics at Gettysburg College. His research focuses on game theory, experimental methods and political economy. He teaches current issues in economics, introduction to economics and econometrics. Dru Tomlin of Cuming, Ga., was appointed principal at Haynes Bridge Middle School last summer. He most recently served as assistant principal at Webb Bridge Middle School, where he has served since 2004. Tomlin joined Fulton County Schools in 1998 after working as a high-school teacher in Virginia. He was named Teacher of the Year at both Ridgeview Middle and River Trail Middle School, and he was chosen as the school system’s overall Teacher of the Year in 2003. In 2009, he was named Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year by the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals and was an inaugural member of the school system’s Promising Principals Program, a yearlong leadership program for aspiring principals.

96 Michael G. Abelow, an attorney at Sherard & Roe PLC, received the Harris Gilbert Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award from the Tennessee Bar Association. The award recognized Abelow for his pro bono work on a federal court case. David H. Meyers accepted a faculty position as director of the EMBRACE foster family support program in the Fanning Institute, which is part of the public service and outreach department of the University of Georgia. Meyers’ wife, Dawn Miller Meyers (’92), works as a school social worker for the Clarke County School District and is pursuing a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Georgia. The Myerses have three children, Zach, 11; Aaron, 9; and Lily, 6. Broadway veteran James Moye headlined The Songbook Series on May 24 at the Bruno Walter Auditorium at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. The concert celebrated composer Tommy Newman, whom Moye worked closely with in 2009 on Tinyard Hill. Moye, a history major, most recently appeared in the cast of the Tony-nominated Best Musical Million Dollar Quartet. Moye’s Broadway appearances include The Fall Monty, A Tale of Two Cities, Ragtime and Urinetown. Learn more about Moye at www.jamesmoye.com.
A home run for Bundy

Former Diamond Duke star puts family first as a minor league coach  BY DAVID DRIVER

A
fter the 2009 baseball season, Arizona did not renew the contract of Lorenzo Bundy ('81), the former JMU baseball star who was a first base coach for the Diamondbacks that season. The team had changed managers during the season, and sometimes it really is “who you know” instead of what you know that counts on big league coaching staffs.

But Bundy, with an extensive career as a coach at the minor and major league levels, did not have a shortage of suitors for his services for the 2010 season. He was in demand by several Major League Baseball clubs to serve as a Triple-A hitting coach or a roving minor league instructor. But Bundy opted to return to the Los Angeles Dodgers and one of his main reasons was family.

Bundy and his wife, Lupita, have one child, Nicole, a daughter who completed her junior year of high school this spring and has started to make college visits. The family has lived for several years in Tucson, Ariz. “I had some Triple-A offers, but I didn’t want to go to the East Coast, and I didn’t want to go to Florida for spring training,” Bundy says. “I wanted something that would keep me in Arizona. I felt like I needed to be closer to home.”

As luck would have it the Dodgers, an organization Bundy worked for in 2007-08 as the Triple-A manager in Las Vegas, moved their spring training site from Florida to Arizona following the 2009 season. “When the Dodgers came to Glendale it was a blessing in disguise,” Bundy says. After he left the Dodgers following the 2008 season for a spot on the Diamondbacks coaching staff, Bundy got a call from Ned Colletti, general manager of the Dodgers. “We are sorry to see you go but we understand. If you ever want to come back you are more than welcome,” Colletti told Bundy.

And that is what happened. Bundy went to 2010 spring training with the Dodgers in the Phoenix area, about two hours from his home. On June 21, he started as manager of the rookie club in the Arizona League, which plays a 56-game schedule that runs through late August.

De Jon Watson, assistant general manager for player development with the Dodgers, first worked with Bundy in the Florida Marlins system in the 1990s. “I am a big Lorenzo Bundy fan,” Watson says. “He has a chance to manage at the major league level. He is a great teacher. We were fortunate to get him back in the organization. He is having an impact on way more players at this level. He’s bilingual. He will get back to the big leagues at some point, maybe in the near future.”

Bundy says he was treated well in his previous stint with the Dodgers’ club. “That had a lot to do with my coming back. My goal is to get back to the big leagues; there is no doubt about that.”

Bundy, a communications major, still keeps in touch with his former JMU coaches and teammates. When Arizona made its only trip to Washington during the 2009 season, former JMU head coach Brad Babcock and former players such as Justin Gannon and Mike Reeves, members of the 1983 College World Series team, came to see Bundy at Nationals Park.

Bundy was the all-time home run leader for the Diamond Dukes until Kellen Kulbacki ('08), now a minor league player with San Diego, broke the mark in 2007. Bundy was inducted into the JMU Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003 after having served as a captain during the 1980 and 1981 seasons.

A left-handed hitting first baseman at JMU, Bundy began his pro managing career in 1990 at the rookie level with the Gulf Coast Expos (Montreal). He never made it to the major leagues as a player, going as high as Triple-A in the Pittsburgh Pirates farm system. He hit .318 in eight pro seasons, with 135 homers, for the Rangers, Pirates and Expos.

But Bundy has made it to The Show as a coach — as a bullpen coach for the Colorado Rockies in 1999 and as the interim bench coach for Arizona in 2004. He has also been a manager for nearly 20 years in the Mexican Winter League, where he has been named manager of the year twice and led several teams to league titles.

Bundy is fluent in Spanish, and he said about half of the 76 players in extended spring training with the Dodgers this year spoke English as a second language.

From spring training through May of this year, Bundy spent his work week in the Glendale area and then drove home on Saturday evenings to be with his wife and daughter. “I am having fun. It is really relaxed,” he says.
Andrea Seaton Kelton ('98M) is an assistant professor of accounting at Wake Forest University in the School of Business. Kelton, who earned a Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Tennessee in 2002, was previously employed at the University of South Florida.

Anna Mercedes, assistant professor of theology at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University, received the 2010 Linda Kulzer Gender Educator Award. The honor recognizes a member of the Saint John’s University faculty whose work has been especially important to gender education development. Mercedes has taught at CSB and SJU since 2007. She earned a doctorate degree from Drew University. Michael Sciallis edited The Streets Stop Here, a documentary about Bob Hurley Sr. The film aired on PBS National during April 2010 and will air for the next two years. Sciallis is a JMU School of Media Arts and Design major and music minor. ESPN hired his company, Victory Pictures, to create the opening video and features for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. The videos highlight the culture and people of South Africa. Sciallis spent 45 days filming many remote locations around South Africa and more than a month editing the show and cup coverage. Sciallis was nominated for three 2009 sports Emmys and has won two Edward R. Murrow Awards. He is married to Beth Cull Sciallis ('98), and they live in West Simsbury, Conn.

Anthony Faust, a media arts and design major from Reston, Va., has directed and produced his third short film, A Rock and a Hard Place. The film was submitted to the 2010 Cannes International Film Festival and the Palm Springs International Film Festival. View the trailer and learn more about the movie at www.ThinkOutsideTheRock.net and on YouTube. Faust has completed two other short films: Hunter’s Quandary (2002) was accepted in the 2004 Rhode Island Film Festival, and Cemetery (2005) was accepted to the 2005 Asheville, N.C., Film Festival. Faust hopes to move into feature-length filmmaking.

Akshan, aka Nickia Palmer of Manassas Park, Va., released a new CD, Island Rocker, in June. Akshan and his band, the DubCity Renegades, earned the Best New Artist nod at the 2010 Virginia Reggae Awards in May. View Akshan’s photos and listen and download his music at www.akshanmusic.com. Kevin Hughes is director of economic development for the City of Suffolk, Va. He most recently served as interim director and prior to that as senior business development manager. The history major has worked for the City of Suffolk since 2005.

Gov. Bob McDonnell appointed Matthew Conrad as assistant secretary of agriculture and forestry for the Commonwealth of Virginia in May. Conrad has served as assistant attorney general for Virginia since 2005. The political science major joined the Richmond-based Alliance Group in 2008 and served as director of the Virginia Wine Council, an agricultural membership organization that represents the interests of grape growers and Virginia’s farm wineries on the state and local levels. Conrad earned his law degree from George Mason University in 2005. Computer information systems major Lisa Colon Tudor was acknowledged by Northern Virginia Magazine as the Best Dog Trainer. This award is voted on by the public in the magazine’s annual “Best Of” edition. Tudor and her husband, Daniel (’02), own Kiss/Able Canine LLC in Arlington, Va. “I left JMU with the expectations of a thriving corporate career,” says Lisa. “After being unsatisfied by that career, I put two rates into business. I am a business owner and my love of animals.” The Tudors focus on in-home family pet training, enrichment and behavior modification. Mandi Theobald Saunders ('98) also works for the business. Learn more at www.kissablecanine.com.

Margaret Waite, Cristina Hernandez ('05) and Anna Turton ('05) traveled to Kenya and Sudan in January and February 2010 on a medical mission trip. Waite writes, “In Sudan, we worked in a rural hospital educating the nurses on basic nursing skills. We treated two children who were badly burned. By the end of our two weeks they were almost completely recovered. We also helped deliver a baby during an emergency cesarean section. The baby was not expected to live, but he recovered well. The family named him ‘Visiting Team’ in their language. In Kenya, we talked to students at a nursing school about our specialties. We had raised money prior to the trip, and we brought nursing textbooks, a CPR dummy for their nursing skills lab and other supplies. We were grateful for such a life-changing experience and blessed to use our nursing gifts abroad.”

Brendan O’Connor received one of 10 annual Outstanding Volunteer awards from Arlington County for his volunteer work in 2009. He was the volunteer chair of the Community Volunteer Network, a group that seeks to increase civic engagement among 20- and 30-year-olds through volunteer and social opportunities. As CVN chair, O’Connor implemented a variety of changes and improvements, including creating a new CVN leadership position to develop return volunteers. He also created online videos to highlight CVN’s community work and established a CVN blog at http://arlingtoncvn.blogspot.com. He currently works for the Department of State, but will resign this fall to begin the community development and action graduate program at Vanderbilt University. O’Connor earned his JMU degree in philosophy and religion.

Deena Khalil Gakos and Dean Gakos ('07M) completed a six-month backpacking journey. They started at St. Innocent Orphanage and Project Mexico in Tijuana, where they assisted with home building projects. Deena used her nursing skills to set up an infirmary for the orphanage. Dean, an integrated science and technology graduate, used his background and skills in energy to assist with a wind data collection project on the ranch. They are “exhausted but thankful to have been blessed with this opportunity and highly recommend traveling to all our fellow Dukes.” Check out their adventure blog at http://ddbrekkin.blogspot.com. John Miller ('09M) is completing a Ph.D. in Islamic history at Ohio State University. His studies focus on Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Jacob Forstater ran the Boston 13.1 Half Marathon on June 27 with Team Challenge, a fundraising program for the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America. He has several family members who are affected by Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis. Forstater and his sister, Rachel, raised more than $3,000 for Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis. Forstater, who is a registered nurse, plans to attend graduate school for a degree in business administration.
Orange Hunt Elementary School in Springfield, Va., certainly bleeds purple. It boasts not one, not two, but seven proud Madison alumnae on the faculty and staff. These seven women, whose graduation years range from the ’70s to the ’00s, all share one thing in common—a love and appreciation for all things Madison.

“There is a very strong community spirit that you feel when you walk on campus,” says third-grade teacher Debbie Carlin Sherrill (’77). Sherrill is not the only member of her family with Purple Pride. Her three brothers, Bob (’78), Jim (’80) and Tim (’81), are also proud alumni. Her daughter, Katie Baer-Tibbals (’03), and niece, Lindsay (’12), currently attend JMU.

Special education teacher at Orange Hunt Eve Krivoruchka Tschetter (’78) also has a JMU legacy family. Two of her cousins, a second cousin and her own daughter, Allison Maicke (’07), are JMU Dukes. Tschetter fondly recalls the Anthony-Seeger building, which housed a small elementary school where students in the education program could observe and teach their own lessons. Tschetter, who did her student teaching at Orange Hunt in the 1970s, says Madison’s education professors did an exceptional job in preparing students for the profession. “Our professors connected with students and helped us truly understand the art of teaching.”

First-grade teacher and lead mentor Marilyn Millard Facinoli (’82) agrees. “The JMU education program emphasizes the developmental philosophy—giving students appropriate experiences based on their developmental stage and needs. I still apply that philosophy today,” she says. Facinoli, whose husband, David (’81), is also a proud alumnus, says the most rewarding part of her job is watching students learn, grow and develop. “Our professors didn’t just teach us to do a job—they taught us to look at children as individuals and to appreciate them as developing human beings.”

Reading specialist Cheri Wiesheier Fischer (’86), whose sister Carol (’90) is also an alumna, and whose daughter Emily (’13) attends JMU, says her Madison Experience outside the classroom also prepared her for her career. “JMU provided so many opportunities, like student teaching and practicums, and this allowed us to actually put our learning into practice.”

Amanda Lindsay Alsbaugh (’06, ’07M), who teaches special education, also found that the hands-on experience she gained outside the classroom prepared her for teaching in the “real world.” Alsbaugh says one of the biggest lessons she learned was to be flexible. “Just when you think you have everything figured out, something changes,” she says. “As a teacher, you have to learn to adapt quickly.”

Second-grade teacher Katie Baer-Tibbals (’03) agrees. “One of the most important things I learned is that you have to recognize that things don’t always go according to plan,” she says. The JMU Honors Program graduate says she is glad that Madison’s education program focuses on prospective teachers through a combination of classroom lectures, practicums and student teaching. “The immediate gratification of taking what we learned from lecture and applying it in an actual classroom was really helpful,” she adds.

Kathy McLoughlin Hart (’81), who works as an office assistant, received her degree in communication arts with a concentration in journalism. After a few years in publishing, followed by 18 years as a freelance editor and stay-at-home mom, Hart began volunteering at Orange Hunt which led to her current position. “I love that I get to work with smart, professional people who genuinely love children,” she says. Hart works behind the scenes helping run day-to-day operations. She also creates the principal’s newsletter, which enables her to use her editing, writing and photography skills.

Orange Hunt’s “Madison seven” say that JMU is special. “At JMU, you can be who you want to be—there is no stereotype you need to conform to,” says Hart.
May 5, 2010, Washington Nationals game. Shannon Thacher (’08, ’09M) sings the national anthem before the school. I sang throughout high lessons since I was in elementary of singers and have taken voice degree in interdisciplinary liberal Nationals home game on May 5.

Outstanding Senior Physics major. don Scholarship and was the 2007 Forstater earned the Robert Gor- ulcerative colitis.” A physics major, severe through the challenges they me. Each of them continues to per- severe through the challenges they face as a result of Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.” A physics major, Forstater earned the Robert Gordon Scholarship and was the 2007 Outstanding Senior Physics major.

Former Madison magazine, Vol. 33 [2010], No. 3, Art. 1

**ClassNotes**

**08 Shannon Thacher (’09M)** sang The Star-Spangled Banner at the Washington Nationals home game on May 5. Thacher earned her undergraduate degree in interdisciplinary liberal studies and her M.A.T. in PreK-6. She says, “I grew up in a family of singers and have taken voice lessons since I was in elementary school. I sang throughout high school — especially in musicals, and I sang the national anthem at school sports events. I also sang at tennis matches in my hometown of West Chester, Pa., and for weddings and sorority functions. This is my first performance at an event this large. … Our school’s music teacher helped me create an audition tape, and I sent it to the Nationals’ entertainment director. Within a day he e-mailed me back. I was thrilled and excited.” Thacher teaches fourth grade at Arlington Traditional School in Arlington, Va., where her students are always asking her to sing. “My students make everything about teaching and singing fantastic,” she says. “I would love to sing for the Nationals again. I’m also planning on sending in an audition tape to the Washington Capitals this fall. My fingers are crossed!”

**09 Andrew Baker (’09M)** is an editorial assistant for the Journal of Southern History, and he is completing the Ph.D. program in Southern history at Rice University.

**Jeffrey Bennett (’09M)** is completing the security studies program at Edmund Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. His concentration is national security policy. **Dorian Brooks** of Richmond was one of only two JMU

football players invited to the NFL combine in the past 10 years. Arthur Moats (’10) shared the invitation to this spring’s NFL combine. Brooks, a kinesiology major and former JMU offensive guard, will participate in the Pittsburgh Steelers’ preseason camp.

**John Erdos (’09M)** is completing a Ph.D. in environmental history at the University of California at Davis. Though she was named the fifth runner-up in the 2009 Miss Virginia pageant, Chinah Helmandollar of Hardy still attained the top crown. In January, Miss Virginia Caressa Cameron was named Miss America. Once Miss America is named, her home state chooses a runner-up to fulfill the state pageant winner duties. In this instance, the first four runners-up passed on accepting the Miss Virginia title, but Helmandollar jumped at the chance for more opportunities in public speaking. The theater and dance major told the Roanoke Times, “The opportunity was right for me at the right time.” From February to June 26, Helmandollar served as Miss Virginia during a 20-stop tour that included speaking engagements, school visits, festivals and promotions of her pageant platform, “Serving Virginians with Disabilities.”

**Scotty McGee** of Virginia Beach was drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars in the sixth round of the NFL draft in April. The former JMU cornerback and kick returner was the 203rd overall selection — the 34th pick in the sixth round. McGee has a chance to start as a punt returner during the 2010–11 season, according to the Jaguars’ website. McGee was a double major in marketing and kinesiology. He and Arthur Moats (’10) were the first JMU players selected in the NFL draft since the Cincinnati Bengals chose JMU tailback Curtis Keaton (’00) in 2000. **Kristin McNama** of Essex Junction, Vt., won a 2009 Council for Advancement and Support of Education Special Merit Award for Feature Series Writing for her Professors You Love article about JMU mathematics professor Laura Taalman. Her article appeared in the Winter 2010 issue of Madison.

**10 Mike Caussin** of Spring- field, Va., will participate in the Jacksonville Jaguars preseason camp this year. The public policy and administration major is a former JMU right end. **Arthur Moats** of Chesapeake, Va., was drafted by the Buffalo Bills in the sixth round of the NFL draft in April. The former JMU defensive end performed well in the NFL combine in March and was the 178th overall pick in the draft — the ninth pick in the sixth round.

**11 Carol Ann Barry,** a D.M.A. candidate, submitted a pro- posal to the College Music Society for the 2010 National Conference in Minneapolis in September. She was invited to give a lecture recital on Cesar Cui Preludes, Op. 64. The Music Teacher’s National Association Foundation Grant committee also awarded Barry $2,000 for summer research.
The JMU Faculty Emeriti Association elected new officers for 2010–11. These officers assume their new duties in September. Rex Fuller was elected president, and Violet Allain was elected vice president. Phil Riley was elected secretary, and Joe Hollis was elected treasurer.

Approximately 130 former faculty members are engaged in the JMU Faculty Emeriti Association, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Each year the association presents a $2,000 unrestricted grant to a JMU faculty member who has made significant professional contributions. The award randomly rotates among colleges, and deans make the final selections. In 2009, Ann Myers of the social work department received the award. Upcoming emeriti association meetings include October’s “JMU Campus Master Plan” overview and Performing Arts Center tour and a holiday gala in December. Learn more at www.jmu.edu/emeriti.

Professor Emerita of English Jean W. Cash presented a lecture at Dalton State College’s Bandy Heritage Center for Northwest Georgia on March 18. The lecture, “Flannery O’Connor in the 21st Century,” was part of the center’s 2009–10 lecture series “Celebrating Georgia’s Women Authors.” Cash is the author of Flannery O’Connor: A Life, the first full-length biography that traces the development of this major Southern writer.

Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership Michael Rettig presented the pros and cons of block scheduling to Washington County school system leaders during spring semester. The school system leaders gathered at Abingdon (Va.) High School to hear Rettig discuss the options of block scheduling plans, which establish longer class periods for individual subjects. Rettig is editor and coauthor of several texts including Scheduling Strategies for Middle Schools.

✱ All former professors are encouraged to contribute an “Emeriti Note” at madisonmag@jmu.edu.
1990s
Lisa L. Horsch-Clark (’91, ’95M) and Robert, a daughter, Grace Lorraine, 4/14/10
Margaret June Hoyt (’92) and Phil Stephenson, a son, Gavin Joseph, 2/15/10
Kimberly Walsh Lyon (’94) and Don, a daughter, Sophie Mae, 1/31/10
Christina Harris (’95) and Michael (’96), a daughter, Tristyn Avery, 12/7/09
Kristen Marie Phillips Wood (’95) and Rhett (’98), a daughter, Kendall Caroline, 3/9/10
Maia Dhokai Lucier (’97) and James, a son, Calvin Roland, 4/13/09
Kelly Carter Sadler (’97) and Matthew, a son, Desmond Charles, 12/10/09
Lisa Allen Shepherd (’97) and Christopher (’94), a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, 6/18/09
Jocelyn Potts Baroody (’98) and Peter (’99), a son, Nathan Douglas, 12/14/09
Stacey Slapakoff Harbeson (’98) and Jamie, a daughter, Hope Marie, 2/24/09
Kristi Miller O’Brien (’98) and Mike (’97), twin daughters, Brooke Noelle and Sara Grace, 5/17/09
Julie Greer Sleight (’98) and Ryan, a son, Carson Ryan, 3/16/10
Chelsea Wildt Taft (’98) and Bea, a son, Jackson David, 9/3/09
Christina Henning Cashman (’99) and Andy, a daughter, Alison Elizabeth, 2/11/10
Josh Elliot (’99) and Caroline, a daughter, Corinne Majken
Angie Hagan Peden (’99) and John, a son, Gregory Hagan, 11/27/09
Kelly Ann Hynes O’Neill (’99) and Mark, a son, Augustine Blaise, 3/6/10

2000s
Dolly Saini-Ball (’00) and Derrick (’99), a son, Dhillon Singh-Luther Ball, 12/28/09
Arria Dawn Ibach Durham (’00) and Ryan, a son, Goodwyn Charles, 1/20/10
Kimberly Noble Gould (’00) and James (’00), a son, Gavin James, 1/20/10
Sara Owrey Monteleone (’00, ’02M) and Michael, a daughter, Juliette Elizabeth, 5/4/09
Andrea Polizzi Nicoloisi (’00) and Paul, a daughter, Lia, 3/26/09
Korinne Graeb Panchura (’00) and Kurt, a son, Chase Kurtis, 7/30/09
Emily Anne Summerell (’00) and Andrew Leachy, twins, two sons, Henry Summerell and Jack Anker, 10/14/09
Kelly Denholm Emerick (’01) and Scott (’01), a son, Ryan Michael, 11/22/09
Ainsleigh Thomas Gaskins (’01) and Thomas, a daughter, Kathryn Morgan, 11/8/09
Allison McSween Jensen (’01) and Erik, twins, Keegan Francis and Adeline Therese, 12/11/09
Jennifer Turner Mcmurrer (’01) and Brendan, a son, Eamon James, 1/13/10
Jeanette Staniq Murphy (’01) and Asher, a son, Zane Isaac, 9/6/09
DeLani Holmberg Mathias (’02, ’05M) and Matthew (’02), a son, Mason John, 1/17/10
Jacqueline Hansen Prather (’02) and Justin (’02), a daughter, Camille Marie Prather, 12/12/09
Doris Carneal Sanders (’02) and Stephen, a daughter, Karsen Page, 2/25/09
Greg Schaub (’02) and Cristin, a son, Chase Harrison, 4/23/09
Timothy Brett (’03) and Linh, a daughter, Trinity Luong, 3/21/10
Tristan Bradshaw (’04, ’05M) and Tommy Pogue, a son, Zade Thomas, 12/5/09
Sara Sharp Hockenberry (’04) and Kodi, a son, Blake William, 1/4/10
Emily Futrell Bien (’05) and Stephen (’05), a son, Henry Thomas, 3/18/10
Joshua Robert Blake (’05) and Tara, a daughter, Krista Marie 3/23/06; a daughter, Lily Lykke 10/14/08; and a daughter, Madison Leigh, 2/23/10
Jamie Doescher Recio (’05) and Chris, a daughter, Sydney Paige, 9/14/09
Christina Conolly-Wilson (’05) and Gregory (’02, ’04M), a daughter, Rachel Wilson
Kelley Martin Rhodes (’06) and Michael (’05), a daughter, Michaela Jane, 3/4/10
Anderson Braswell (’06) and Joanna, a daughter, Claire Margaret, 3/15/10
Brooke Mondy (’07) and Josh (’07), a daughter, Kaylee Adrianna Adams, 9/25/09
Angela Hormes Hendricks (’09) and Adam (’08), a son, Jack Wesley, 5/6/09
Whatever time the “Madison Nine Dining Divas” spend together is a highlight for all of us. As students, we all worked together in the dining hall in Harrison, and our friendships have continued since graduation in 1958. In May, we gathered together under the spectacular Angel Oak in Kiawah, S.C. It was truly a momentous occasion. This gathering marked an eighth reunion for the nine of us (eight from the Class of 1958 and one from 1959) who share so many unique Madison College experiences.

After a “seek and find” mode triumphed in 2002, we’ve made a conscious effort to share a reunion annually. Beginning appropriately at Grandma’s House in Lake Junalaska, we’ve taken on the historical sites and flora and fauna of Nags Head, Jamestown, Massanutten, Virginia Beach, Blowing Rock, Jamestown and Kiawah Island. Naturally, our 50th-year celebration at JMU during the Madison Centennial in 2008 ranks high on our list.

Years ago we fashioned a quilt of Madison memories that chronicle our feelings about our college days. It was exhibited in the Leeolou Alumni Center during our 50th reunion and now it’s on permanent display there. We hope other alumni who see our “Reunion of the Heart” quilt will pause to reflect upon their own Madison memories.

Now refreshed from our eighth reunion, we know our friendships are strengthened, and we’ve started early planning for a ninth reunion. Where will we wander this time? Standing together under the 17,000-square-foot shade of an Angel Oak tree is pretty hard to top, but we will!
One JMU family’s passion to teach: 
The Crowder legacy

By Sara Riddle (’10)

Majoring in education at Madison College in the 1970s was quite the unique thing for a male student. Robin Crowder (’77, ’81M), now in his 32nd year in education, knows about that rare Madison experience firsthand. “I was often one of only two males in any class,” he says. “But it was a great experience, and I love teaching.”

After graduation, Crowder landed a job student-teaching for Augusta County public schools and was offered his first teaching position in the county a year later. There, he met his wife, Cathy (’79), who was teaching special education with a focus on the emotionally disturbed. The two had more in common than just a passion for teaching. Cathy was also a fellow Duke, and the two were both working toward master’s degrees in educational administration and supervision, Robin at JMU and Cathy at the University of Virginia. “He was the coach of his school’s staff volleyball team,” says Cathy. “I was invited to play on their team by my former college roommate. We found ourselves on our first date in February 1980 and married by December. We moved to Montgomery County for Robin to begin his first principalship.”

Robin now works as superintendent for Waynesboro Public Schools, and Cathy has taught at the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center for more than 20 years. Although the two were strangers at Madison, they share many Madison memories: watching football games from Hillside, dancing downtown at Martin’s Garage, midnight movies at Wilson Hall and warm spring days on the Quad.

The Crowders are also creating new Madison memories since two of their children chose JMU. “We love to visit campus — remembering when there were only 6,000 students — and marvel at the growth,” says Robin. “The Shenandoah Valley is fortunate to have such a great university and our children are certainly receiving the benefits.”

Both Marcus (’09, ’10M) and Emily (’13) are following in their parents’ footsteps, literally. Marcus earned a B.S. in elementary education and a master’s and has shared many of the same experiences as his father. “JMU is constantly showing progression,” he says. “I’m very confident that JMU has provided me with everything I need for a great career in education.”

Emily is an interdisciplinary liberal studies major with a minor in special education. She hopes to teach students with special needs, the same path her mother followed. “I think it is pretty cool that I attend the same university as my parents and brother,” she says. “I enjoy their stories of Madison College and also how much JMU has changed.”

The Crowders’ oldest son, Stuart, took a different college path, graduating from Virginia Tech with a B.S. in construction management. Although he is not a Duke, he has a special JMU connection. He works for Donley Construction as a superintendent/project engineer for the Bridgeforth Stadium renovation. He lives in Harrisonburg and says he has enjoyed eating on campus with Marcus and Emily.

“The first time since high school, all of our children were in one spot,” says Robin. “JMU has brought great riches to our family, and we are very proud to be products of such a great university.”

The Crowder family’s JMU legacy includes a love of teaching. Stuart Crowder, (left) who is working on the Bridgeforth Stadium renovation, joins Robin (’77, ’81M), Marcus (’09, ’10M), Cathy (’79) and Emily Crowder (’13).

‘JMU has brought great riches to our family, and we are very proud to be products of such a great university’
— Robin Crowder (’77, ’81M)
Submit your Madison class note

The magazine staff welcomes news for class notes and notes from alumni and former faculty members. Please submit news of personal and career achievements online at [www.jmu.edu/alumni/classnote](http://www.jmu.edu/alumni/classnote) or use this form and mail news to:

**Class Notes, Madison, James Madison University, 220 University Blvd., MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807**

Full Name (include maiden) ____________________________
Class Year ____________________________ College/Major ____________________________
Home Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ____________________________ ZIP ____________________________
E-mail Address ____________________________ Home Phone ____________________________
Employer ____________________________ Job Title ____________________________
Spouse Name (include maiden) ____________________________ JMU Class Year ____________________________
News ____________________________

It can take up to six months, or two issues, for your class note to appear in Madison. We appreciate your patience.

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A group of students standing in front of a building.

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The Forbes Center for the Performing Arts is open — and it’s exquisite. See all five major performance venues for yourself by attending an open house on Family Weekend Oct. 2 or Homecoming Oct. 16. It’s the premier destination for the performing arts in the Shenandoah Valley. Learn more at www.jmu.edu/JMUarts.

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Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2010

Photography by Diane Elliott '99

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Award-winning academics

Dramatic social conscience

Friendly, engaging professors

Gorgeous surroundings

A place where imagination and curiosity are demanded, nurtured and supported

Look inside for important admissions information and how to apply
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A world of opportunity opens up when you embark on the Madison Experience. At JMU, diversity equals endless possibilities. It means you are accepted for who you are and for your unique talents. It says that your individuality makes this university a richer place. From spending a semester overseas in our popular Study Abroad programs to becoming a leader in one of our more than 350 clubs and organizations, immersion in the world of JMU means opportunity around every corner.

Social conscience
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We work on your weaknesses and your strengths. Mixing in your imagination and curiosity, and adding our insight and support guarantees that your Madison experience will be special. It happens over and over because we work hard to keep the focus on you. Expect to live your dream.

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- No. 2 nationally for number of students studying abroad — Institute for International Education (2005)
- JMU values and embraces a commitment to volunteering, service learning and civic engagement — President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll (2007)
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<td>Materials Science</td>
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<td>Spanish-English Translation and Interpretation</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Composition</td>
<td>Jazz Studies</td>
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<td><strong>Majors + Minors + Teacher Licensure</strong></td>
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<td>Five-year Master’s Degree Program in Teaching</td>
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<td>Traditional Bachelor’s Program in Teaching</td>
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Concentrations are listed below their respective programs.

### Majors
- **Business**
- **Education**
- **Engineering**
- **English**
- **History**
- **Mathematics**
- **Science**
- **Social Sciences**
- **Sociology**
- **World Languages**
- **Communication Arts**

### Minors
- **Biological Sciences**
- **Psychology**
- **Philosophy**
- **Religion**
- **Health Professions**
- **Arts**
- **Humanities**
- **Sociology**
- **Economics**
- **Law**
- **Art**
- **Music**
- **Theater**
- **Creative Writing**

### Key
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For complete information on all academic programs go to [www.jmu.edu/catalog](http://www.jmu.edu/catalog)

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*Law is a field that does not exclude any major. Recent JMU graduates from music, art, anthropology, chemistry, philosophy and more traditional “feeder” majors – political science, history and English – have all been accepted at excellent law schools. Law schools are primarily concerned with GPA and scores on the LSAT, the law school entrance exam. Major is not a consideration.*
**UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION**

JMU’s admission process is competitive. We receive more qualified applications than we can accommodate. For the 2010 admissions process, 58 percent of the applicants were admitted; however, 90 percent of the applicants were competitive. We do not have a prescribed formula for gaining admission. JMU works to select the strongest candidates from a high-quality pool. We consider the following factors in evaluating applicants: program of study; academic achievement; standardized test scores; secondary school report form and recommendation; extracurricular activities; and personal statement (optional). Each applicant is rated in the following four areas, listed in order of importance:

**Academic Program**

Competitive applicants should minimally have the following:

- **four years of math** (one full year beyond algebra II);
- **three years of laboratory science** (preferably including biology, chemistry and physics; general science or earth science usually does not count as a lab science);
- **three to four years of the same foreign language** or two years of two different foreign languages;
- **four years of English**; and
- **four years of social studies**.

Students who challenge themselves with the upper-level courses offered in their high school (i.e. Honors-level courses, Advanced Placement classes, International Baccalaureate, dual enrollment, etc.) increase their competitiveness.

Because strong students come from many different types of schools, we examine each applicant within the context of his or her high school. Although schools provide different opportunities, you should pursue the most demanding college preparatory programs available.

**Academic Achievement**

To evaluate your achievement in high school, we evaluate your grades in core courses. We look at your performance throughout your entire high-school career.

- **Competitive candidate is an A/B student in core courses**.

**For the 2010 admissions process, 58 percent of the applicants were admitted; however, 90 percent of the applicants were competitive.**

**Standardized Tests**

Performance on the SAT I or ACT helps us discern your past academic achievements and your potential for future academic success. JMU’s application review process will only consider the mathematics and critical reading sections of the SAT. For the ACT, we use your single highest composite score. SAT IIs are not required nor considered in the admissions process. All test results must be received directly from the testing agency by the application deadline.

**Extracurricular Activities**

We are looking for quality rather than quantity. For instance, we like to see what you have done in clubs, organizations and athletics beyond just being a member. We also consider community service and part-time jobs. We look at the variety and depth of your involvement. You must be academically competitive before your extracurricular activities are reviewed.

**JMU’s Honors Program**

A stimulating, challenging and rewarding world of ideas awaits you in JMU’s Honors Program. Learn more at www.jmu.edu/honorsprog/.

**Advanced Standing**

Students can earn college credit for course work taken in high school. JMU awards credit for AP and IB courses. For more information, see www.jmu.edu/admissions/info/scores.shtml.

**Early Action (nonbinding): Nov. 1**

Early Action is more competitive than the Regular Decision process. To be admitted through Early Action, a student needs to be superior in curriculum, grades, test scores and extracurricular activities. For the last two years, 35 to 42 percent of the students deferred from Early Action to Regular Decision were eventually admitted. Students who apply through the Early Action process do not have an advantage over students who apply Regular Decision. Applicants will get notification of JMU’s decision by early January.

**Regular Decision: Jan. 15**

Students who apply through Regular Decision are not at a disadvantage. Applicants will get notification of JMU’s decision by April 1.

**TRANSFER ADMISSION**

We consider transfer applicants’ college program and grade-point average, high school program and grades, and SAT I or ACT scores. The more credit hours you have earned in college, the less emphasis is placed on your high-school record. Competitive transfer applicants must successfully complete college course work in the following areas: English, mathematics, social science and lab science. Transfer applicants for fall must apply by March 1 and are notified of their admission status in late April. The summer application deadline is Jan. 15 and applicants are notified in late March. JMU offers spring admission to roughly 30 to 60 students. Priority consideration is given to associate degree completers or those with at least 48 college credits earned. The spring application deadline is Oct. 15 and applicants are notified in late November.

www.jmu.edu/admissions/transfer/

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**Tuition and Fees for Full-Time Students**

| In-state tuition and fees | $7,860 |
| Room and board | $7,700 |
| **In-state total** | **$15,560** |
| Out-of-state tuition and fees | $20,624 |
| Room and board | $7,700 |
| **Out-of-state total** | **$28,324** |
**Financial Aid Information**

Your college education is one of the most significant investments you will ever make. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will help simplify and guide you through the financial aid process as you seek avenues to fund the cost of your college education. No matter your family income, you have the potential to afford the high-quality education JMU offers.

Our goal is to help meet these costs with funding available from federal, state and university sources. As a state-supported school, the majority of our grant assistance is allocated to Virginia residents. Resources for non-Virginia residents are primarily limited to student and parent loans. Scholarship opportunities are very competitive due to the caliber of students accepted by JMU. Acknowledging that our aid options are limited, the university has made a commitment to keep its costs reasonable, while providing a high-quality education.

To determine your eligibility for assistance, please complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. FAFSA forms received by the Department of Education before our priority filing date of March 1, 2011, will receive first consideration. Our federal school code is 003721. JMU does not base admission decisions on financial aid. Learn more at www.jmu.edu/scholarships/ www.jmu.edu/stuemploy/

**Scholarships**

JMU awards more than 400 one- to four-year scholarships each year to incoming students. For more information on JMU scholarships, visit www.jmu.edu/admissions/scholarships/

**Sports and Recreation**

JMU is a member of the NCAA Division I and fields 18 intercollegiate teams, six for men and 12 for women. For more information visit www.JMUSports.com. JMU also offers an abundance of club sports, a vibrant intramural program, an amazing on-campus recreation center and breathtakingly picturesque outdoor recreation opportunities within an hour’s drive of campus. For more information visit www.jmu.edu/recreation and www.jmu.edu/osai.
Nineteen writers, editors, photographers and designers from *The Breeze* feature the “Top 10 things to do in Harrisonburg.” From country roads to rich local history to active downtown nightlife, *The Breeze* staff takes you on a journey around JMU’s unique and beautiful home in the Shenandoah Valley.

If you crave it, you can find it in and around Harrisonburg: home-cooked meals, edgy coffee shops, farmers’ markets, vintage thrift shops, live Shakespeare, live music, mountain climbing, ski slopes, biking, camping, fishing, swimming; and cuisine that includes Ethiopian, Italian and Thai; and, oh yeah, the best ice cream in the valley.

**REDDISH KNOB**

BY JAY LEAMY (*’10), WRITER

When Harrisonburg is gifted with an occasional meteor shower, there will be talk on campus of who has to stay and watch from the Quad or who gets to see it from the highest point in northern Virginia — Reddish Knob. Nestled next to the West Virginia border and a scenic 35-minute drive out of Harrisonburg, Reddish Knob provides one of the best views to be found in the Appalachian Mountains.

To observe the cornucopia of landscapes — from farms and churches to hills speckled with forests — drivers are faced with a spine-tingling ascent up a service road that brings them straight to the peak. It is worth the trip to enjoy the spectacular 360-degree view.

Reddish Knob offers a breathtaking view of the Appalachian Mountains. Near the West Virginia border, the hot spot is about a 35-minute drive from campus. (Right): For the more adventurous, hiking and bicycling are great options — just ask Keith Mills (*’83).
Downtown Music

By Cory Kuklick ('10), Writer

On any night of the week, the sounds of cymbals crashing and amplifiers buzzing can be heard throughout downtown Harrisonburg. The downtown music scene has a decades-long history of independent music culture due to the numerous bands that it produces, as well as music festivals such as Rock Lotto and MACRoCk.

Several downtown venues — Clementine Cafe, Blue Nile and Artful Dodger — host regular shows with local and touring bands that play music ranging from folk, hip-hop, jazz, rock to hardcore and everything in between. The majority of shows cost less than $5 to attend. While perhaps less advertised, there are numerous houses downtown that hold shows in their living rooms and basements.

Kline’s Dairy Bar

By Jeff Wade ('13), Writer

Kline’s Dairy Bar has been serving its trademark ice cream since 1943, and its enduring popularity has made it a Harrisonburg landmark. Now with a second location on South Main Street, this walk-up service counter is continuing to scoop the best ice cream in town.

Kline’s offers its homemade, produced fresh daily ice cream in chocolate, vanilla and a weekly specialty flavor. The flavor schedule is available online at www.klinesdairybar.com. While these main ice cream flavors are the stars of the show, Kline’s also offers the usual line-up of milk shakes and sundaes. Much like its taste, the cost of Kline’s treats can’t be beat.

Kline’s Dairy Bar

Published by JMU Scholarly Commons, 2010
For the outdoorsy types, extreme rock climbers and photojournalists, Skyline Drive offers the most scenic views of the Shenandoah Valley and the perfect escape from reality. Skyline Drive, part of Shenandoah National Park, provides a relaxing day complete with breathtaking views, waterfalls, rock climbing and perfect picnic sites. Hiking the trail to the top of the mountain for an impressive aerial view of the valley should be on your list of things to do.

Of course, if heights, water or dangerous cliffs aren’t your thing, then go for a picnic in Big Meadows or just take a drive along the historic Blue Ridge Parkway. Skyline Drive is accessed by Route 33, about 45 minutes east of JMU, and costs $15 per car to enter.

The daffodils. That’s what I go to the arboretum to see. The yellows, whites and oranges are like another form of Vitamin D. Every April, a patch of these little bursts of sunshine greets visitors at the front gate.

The Edith J. Carrier Arboretum and Botanical Gardens is the place to go whether you’re happy or sad, homesick or in love. There’s something about how nature has the power to affect your life. Springtime offers even more beauty: blooming flowers, trees finally green after winter, baby ducks to throw bread crumbs to, and turtles basking in the warmth of the sun. Whether you’re a new or prospective student or a soon-to-be-graduate, walk along the trails, sit by the small lake or lie in the grass and soak up the sun.

Students, professors, returning alumni and visitors step into this world of natural beauty daily to enjoy nature, study native plants and walk the paths in the native Oak-Hickory forest. The arboretum is an outdoor biology lab as well as an environmental center for the region. The new Frances Plecker Education Center and the outdoor pavilion are available for classes, receptions and parties, and the grounds are open 365 days a year. The arboretum has to be on your to-do list for Family Weekend and Homecoming. Check out the botanical library and additional educational resources at www.jmu.edu/arboretum/.
The Forbes Center for the Performing Arts is the new home to both the School of Theatre and Dance and the School of Music. Located across from the Quad on South Main street, the facility combines the Dorothy Thomasson Estes Center for Theatre and Dance and the Shirley Hanson Roberts Center for Music Performance.

Ground was broken for the 174,524-square-foot building in October 2007 and it’s now open for classes. The first performance was the Aug. 5 Children’s Playshop production of Miss Nelson is Missing, a musical adaptation of the popular children’s book. This year, JMU student actors and faculty directors presented the 17th season of family-friendly theater via the Children’s Playshop.

The new complex also features a recital hall, a concert hall for music performances, a proscenium theatre for traditional shows and a black box theatre for experimental shows. The Forbes Center is a crescendo to the successes in the JMU College of Visual and Performing Arts programs. Get your tickets for a show at www.jmu.edu/JMUarts.

There are several places to swim in the local area. Cool spots for Dukes and furry friends.

1. The Quad
2. Local swimming and the Shenandoah River
3. Homecoming and JMU football
4. Massanutten and Reddish Knob
5. Kline’s ice cream
6. Green Valley Book Fair
7. D-Hall food
8. JMU arboretum
9. Duke Dog
10. JMU’s friendly faculty and lifelong alumni friendships

The Forbes Center for the Performing Arts

By Amber Logsdon ('13), Writer

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The new Veterans Memorial Park opened its doors for the first time for the 2010 season, ushering in a new era of JMU baseball and softball for the local community and Dukes fans. The $9.7 million complex, built adjacent to Memorial Hall, was completed in November 2009. The park was built at the site of the former Veterans Memorial Stadium, a Harrisonburg staple that opened in 1949 and was used until September 2008. The new facility boasts spacious dugouts, full-kitchen concessions and eco-friendly restrooms. The baseball stadium, Eagle Field, can hold 1,200 fans, and the diamond is composed of an advanced artificial turf. The softball section fits 500 and features a natural surface. Grab your seat and cheer on the Dukes.

Grafton-Stovall Theatre offers the occasional free advanced screening as well as regular movies for only $2.50. So you missed the opening of that movie you’ve been dying to see. Maybe you had too much homework. Maybe you just didn’t feel like hiking out to Regal Harrisonburg 14. No need to fret — Grafton-Stovall Theatre is here to satisfy your cinematic cravings. Completed in 1979, Grafton is located next to Taylor Hall. You generally don’t need to worry about finding a seat because the theater holds more than 600 viewers. Two shows run Wednesday through Saturday at separate times. Tickets are a mere $2.50, and the fresh, hot popcorn, known across campus, is only 50 cents. Grafton-Stovall is also a hot spot for campus speakers, poetry readings and student club events. Find the calendar of all student events at http://upb.jmu.edu/.

E-Hall is a buffet-style dining hall that provides students with gourmet-style meals and a relaxed atmosphere. Alumni and parents: Don’t miss a trip to E-Hall during Homecoming and Family Weekend.
TODAY

Haven’t been back lately or have yet to visit Harrisonburg? From a 10-minute walk from campus, be sure not to miss ...

(Above and clockwise): A view of downtown and JMU photographed from the rooftop of Urban Exchange; Joshua Wilton House dining; the outdoor patio at the Local Chop & Grill House; and family friendly fun during a Fridays on the Square musical event on the courthouse lawn.

(Left): Asian fusion dining at Beyond Restaurant and Bar. JMU alumni: that’s the old Spanky’s on Water Street. (Below): JMU vs. EMU battle night at Clementine’s basement venue.

Urban Exchange in downtown Harrisonburg offers outstanding city views and four floors of condominiums.

Check out even more on Facebook.com: In the Facebook search field type: “365 things to do in the Shenandoah Valley.”

Alumni, share your stories at Facebook.com/JMUAlumni

Learn even more about JMU and Harrisonburg by award-winning writer Cara Ellen Modisett (’96) at www.jmu.edu/jmuweb/visitJMU/Downtown.shtml.

History and hospitality meet at the Hardesty-Higgins House and Visitors Center in Harrisonburg. Make this the first stop of your downtown tour.