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EACH YEAR SETS A NEW TONE at the university.
Together, STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF MAKE EACH YEAR unique.

THIS YEAR, OUR TONE was set by students helping those in need, MUSIC FROM VARIOUS ARTISTS such as B.o.B. and Cartel, LADY JAMES MADISON, & a football victory that will never be forgotten.

From new EXPANSIONS to HONORED TRADITIONS, this year’s tone will be set in history.

WHAT’S YOUR TONE?
Hats off! Graduating on the Quad, seniors throw their hats in the air after hearing the commencement speaker, Blake Mycoskie of TOMS shoes. Photo courtesy (Mikaela Steinwedel)

Students cheer on the football team during the Pink Out on Oct. 30 against the University of Massachusetts. Sponsored by University Outpost, the football team wore pink as part of their uniforms, and fans were encouraged to wear the color to support the fight against breast cancer. Photo courtesy (Shouda Wang)
A student shows off her Madison Pride by wearing the annual "I bleed purple" Homecoming T-shirt. These shirts were given out during the week leading up to the Homecoming football game. 

A variety of pumpkins and gourds sit on display at the Harrisonburg Farmer's market. Students and community members alike visited the market to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, homemade baked goods and hand-made arts and crafts.

Students move to the tempo of a boxing class at the University Recreation Center (UREC). UREC offered several group fitness classes in addition to gyms, an indoor track, weight room and a pool for informal recreation.

photo courtesy {mikaela steinwedell}
photo courtesy {jmu photography services}
President Linwood H. Rose takes a stroll across the quad during a sunny day. Rose announced in the fall that he would retire in June of 2012.

photo courtesy JMU photography services

Duke Dog watches from the sidelines as the football team takes on its opponent. Duke Dog also worked his way up the student section, stopping to lead cheers and take pictures with excited spectators.

photo courtesy JMU photography services

The fifth real-live Duke Dog stops to catch his breath after running onto the football field before the game. The English Bulldog Siegle, or Duke V, was part of a 33-year tradition of having a real-live Duke Dog escort the team onto the field.

photo courtesy JMU photography services
A change to the traditional "Purple Out," the Dukes participate in "Pink Out" to fight breast cancer. Students, mascots and players showed support of breast cancer awareness during the football game that day. 
photo courtesy (Katie Andleton)

Students take a break from classes on a warm day and relax on the quad. The quad lawn was a common place to gather with friends and enjoy the scenery as well as the weather. 
photo courtesy (JMU Photography Services)

After a snowstorm, snowboarders rest before hitting the slopes they found on campus. Students also sled on the hills as well as generally played in snow. 
photo courtesy (Katie Andleton)
Incoming freshmen look up the words to the fight song during Orientation. Freshmen Orientation, held the week before fall classes started, was an important part of new students' first year at the university.

Celebrating the 21-16 victory over Virginia Tech on Sept. 11, the football team rushes the field at the end of the fourth quarter. The upset over the nationally ranked Hokies sparked a huge in-state rivalry between the two schools.

Students chat while waiting for the feature movie to begin at Grafton-Stovall Theatre. The movie theatre was located on campus and premiered movies as well as showcased other events.

Photo courtesy (sara davis)

Photo courtesy (emmie cleveland)

Photo courtesy (jmu photography services)
student life
student life

SPRING CONVOCACTION  18
MAY GRADUATION     20
FARMER'S MARKET     24
ORIENTATION         26
JMU V. VA TECH      32
KING KORN DOCUMENTARY  34
JAMES MADISON GRL    36
CARTEL              38
FAMILY WEEKEND      40
CAMPUS EXPANSION   42
DREAM INTERPRETATION  44
NURSING            46
ADULT LITERACY STRATEGIES IN IRAQ  48
JMU TRENDS         50
ON-CAMPUS VS OFF   52
NEW DRINKING POLICY  54
WIND POWER        56
HOMECOMING        58
COMING OUT WEEK   60
THINGS TO DO OUTSIDE JMU  62
MICHAEL IAN BLACK  64
HALLOWEEN AT JMU   66
B.a.B: WILSON SERIES  68
HOTSPUR           70
CAMPUS EXPANSION  72
MARCH TO THE ARCTIC  74
TATTOOS          76
HELPING HONDURAS  78
SENIORITIS       80
ART GALLERIES    82
ROOMMATES        84
TAKE BACK THE NIGHT  86
88 STUDENTS PAYING FOR COLLEGE
90 FAVORITE BATHROOMS
92 PRE-GAME RITUALS
94 WXJM RADIO
96 STUDY HABITS
98 SAFERIDES
100 JMU THANKSGIVING
102 PROFILE OF A DRUNK BUS DRIVER
104 RELAY FOR LIFE
106 TAKE A LOOK
108 COLLEGE MOM
110 HAUNTED HARRISONBURG
112 SARA BAREILLES
114 CUPCAKE WARS
116 FACULTY IN RESIDENCE
118 NEW AND IMPROVED
120 10 THINGS TO DO BEFORE GRADUATION
122 MLK WEEK
124 LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST
126 BAND IN LONDON
128 JMU BAR SCENE
130 SNOWBOARDING
132 CLUB GILTY
134 KICKBOXING
136 ANDREW JENKS
138 ON-CAMPUS JOBS
140 GRAMMY NIGHT
142 WINE TASTING
144 EGYPT
146 THROUGH YOUR LENS
a night of hip-hop talents

home-grown hip-hop hits

convos

Wale, a rising DC artist, encourages crowd involvement. University Program Board chose Wale to perform at the Spring Convo after students demanded him through online surveys.

photo by (name of photographer)
The UPB spring concert “Hip-Hop Hat Trick” began before most of the students even arrived. As the 2,500 students who attended the show found their seats, university students Kunal Jhanjee, Mike Williams, Evan Morris, and Reza Ekbatani, also known by their stage names MC Presto, Mikey Mike, Hydrophonics and DJ Raza performed a 30-minute hip-hop set. The student DJs warmed up the crowd before the featured artists DJ Earworm, Jason Derulo and Wale took the stage.

DJ Earworm energized the crowd during his set, playing mixes while constantly bouncing around on stage. His mixes included songs from many genres of popular music, from Kelly Clarkson and Coldplay to Michael Jackson. The biggest cheer from the crowd erupted when he ended his set with the hit “United States of Pop.”

“DJ Earworm was pretty good, he was fun on stage, but I was more excited for Wale and Jason Derulo,” said ‘10 graduate Mina Yun.

Derulo brought with him more dance moves, creating more cheers from the women in the audience. By the end of his first single, “Whatcha Say,” he had his shirt off. During his set, Derulo pulled one lucky girl, sophomore Katie Keller, on stage and serenaded her.

“When he asked who wanted to come on stage with him everyone just started screaming and yelling. When he walked over to my side I knew I was screaming the loudest ‘cause I wanted to get up there so bad. When he pointed to me I guess I was just in shock,” said Keller.

Another crowd favorite was one of his newer single, “Riding Solo,” that had many concert-goers singing along. Derulo finished with his latest hit “In My Head” and a final break dancing split.

One of the reasons the UPB Center Stage committee chose Wale for the spring concert was because of his “DC connection,” said Angela Morton, the director of the committee.

“We just kind of lay down what’s going on in music, and we chose Wale because a lot of students knew of him,” said Morton.

Concert-goers like Yun agreed.

“I’m from Northern Virginia and it’s exciting to have an artist here from DC. I had first heard of Wale when he was small before his single [“DC Chillin’”] with Lady Gaga,” said Yun.

Morton prepared for the concert all semester “from building the stage to working the actual show, and then, after, taking it all apart.”

“For the first time, UPB threw a listening party on the Commons on April 14 to advertise for the concert.

“I think it was a really good turn out and we might try it again,” said freshman UPB member Kate Wood.

Sophomore Tiffany Atienza attended the listening party.

“It allowed for people who weren’t familiar with the music to get a better sense of what the artists were going to perform,” said Atienza.

There was even a raffle for passes to meet the artists.

Wale finished the concert with a new, raw energy that had everyone engaged. He connected with the audience, encouraging students who knew the words to rap along with him, and he came out into the crowd and did a lap around the entire venue. His most popular song, “DC Chillin,” kept the audience on their feet for the rest of the night.
the GIFT of GIVING
TOMS founder speaks at graduation

by sarah lockwood [writer]

As the sea of purple-cloaked graduates flagged down friends, took pictures and exchanged hugs, it was clear this was their last time together. Ongoing construction on Bridgeforth Stadium limited the students to their individual college graduation ceremonies, making the Thursday night Convocation ceremony their last event as the class of 2010. After the processional, performed by Bluestone Brass, President Linwood H. Rose sympathized with the graduates, stating that he hoped this convocation event helped make up for a traditional graduation.

Graduate Mackenzie Wiley confirmed that it did. "I think it's kinda cool that it's different this year," she said. "It's too bad that parents couldn't be there to hear the speakers, but I think the way they've organized it this year kind of compensates for not having the big ceremony at the stadium."

Rose reminded the class of the sports victories and campus growth they had witnessed throughout their college careers. He encouraged them to appreciate the knowledge they gained, the people they came across, the plays and concerts they heard and the guest speakers they welcomed. He also focused heavily on the community service the students participated in throughout their academic terms. He concluded by recognizing his gratitude for all that they had done and expressing high anticipation to witness the things they would achieve beyond the university.

After Rose's speech, Student Government Association President, Candace Avalos spoke to her classmates saying that she felt "lucky to have been in [their] company." Avalos introduced the student address speaker, Allie Weissberg, who compared the class' college career to putting together a puzzle.

"We've now become a family and after four or maybe five years at JMU, we've all assembled our individual and collective puzzles of unique college experiences," said Weissberg.

Rose followed with recognition of valedictorian, Elisabeth Anne Lehigh, and a brief introduction to the student address speaker, Allie Weissberg.

Decorating caps is a way for students to voice their thoughts and opinions during graduation. These decorative caps were scattered throughout the rows of graduates on both Thursday night and Saturday morning. photo by [gareth hermann]
main event, the guest speaker.

On stage, founder and chief shoe giver of TOMS shoes, Blake Mycoskie didn’t act like the famously successful entrepreneur that everyone had seen in AT&T commercials. Casually walking across stage, Mycoskie was a humble man telling his story about starting his shoe company, TOMS, which delivered a pair of shoes to a child in need for every pair purchased. His narrative engaged students through his conversational style and comedic side-stories.

One of the most intimate parts of his story was his description of the company’s first shoe drop. After a few months of explosive business and marketing, it was time to fulfill his ‘one for one’ promise. Mycoskie said he was often asked if the idea for TOMs changed his life. But it didn’t.

“When I had the idea for TOMs, it was just an idea, kind of a what-if,” he said. “But, when my life changed radically, was when I went on that first shoe drop.”
Getting ready to walk across the stage, Media Arts & Design (SMAD) majors sit with anticipation. SMAD was a department in the College of Arts and Letters, which graduated on the Quad every year.

President Rose listens in as Blake Mycoskie, the founder of TOMS shoes, speaks to the graduates. Mycoskie began his business in 2006. For every pair of TOMS shoes that was sold, he donated a pair of shoes to a child in need.

He continued to tell of several events on that first trip that brought tears to his eyes, which in turn, evoked many sniffles from the audience.

Mycoskie stressed two main interrelated lessons that he learned through his experiences: sustainability and giving. He encouraged everyone to adopt sustainable models for giving in their careers, arguing that business models have the ability to give more than fundraiser- and sponsor-dependent charities. Giving, he said “does not just feel good. It’s an amazing business strategy. It’s an amazing life strategy.”

These themes made Mycoskie a fitting choice for guest speaker.

“I just think he was incredibly inspiring,” said graduate Jess Hopkins. “I know a lot of JMU students have those same dreams and aspirations. What I’ve always loved about JMU is that everyone is so dedicated to giving and he really embodied that.”
Wiley also appreciated his message about giving. She felt Mycoskie’s main point to give throughout your life “will apply to us soon since we will eventually, finally be in the position to give.”

To each graduate, Mycoskie’s message meant something different.

“I just liked his message about how you can start with an idea — no matter how absurd it sounds — and you can make it happen,” said graduate Julie Watson.

The general consensus through the crowd of graduates leaving the convocation center was clear. “That was the best speech ever” and “He’s so genuine” could be heard through the giggles about Mycoskie’s decidedly favorable looks.

From there, many of the seniors made their way up to ISAT to receive T-shirts and attend a candlelit ceremony to further prepare themselves for graduating on Saturday, May 8, and stepping into the world beyond the university.

SEPARATION anxiety

by matthew johnson (writer)

Strong winds blew hard against the graduation gowns and tassels as the 2010 graduating class took their seats. Many thought of their future, while some thought of their past four years at the university.

Some remembered a promise made to them their freshmen year. “I attended the Pep Rally at 1787 Orientation my freshman year and was told that it was the last time we would be with our class until graduation,” said graduate Paige Abe. “When I found out that we weren’t going to be together on graduation day with our entire class and parents, I felt sad that that promise was not fulfilled.”

Due to the construction on Bridgeforth Stadium, the typical graduation ceremony where all of the graduates gathered together with family and friends was cancelled. Instead, the class of 2010 had a special ceremony the Thursday before graduation, where relatives were not allowed to attend. Along with those relatives, were some graduates who couldn’t fit the ceremony into their schedule.

“I wasn’t able to make it to the speaker the Thursday before graduation and I feel like I missed out,” said graduate Glenda Cosby. “Graduation day didn’t feel as important as it could have.”

Graduation day consisted of six separate graduation ceremonies that began at 9 a.m. and were spread out across campus.
Many took advantage of the Farmers Market by sarah lockwood

It was a typical Saturday morning at the farmers market. The Downtown Harrisonburg Farmers Market was established in 1979. Turner Pavilion was built in 2008 and has housed the market since. A row of merchants under tents stretched beyond the pavilion. The market ran through Thanksgiving on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m.

Customers had a wide variety of selections to choose from. The pavilion was lined with produce, cheese, sausage, baked goods, jewelry, photography, tie-dye art, knitting, candles and woodwork.

While some vendors sold their products for a living, Char Turner didn't take home a cent. Turner began her booth, Cause for Creation, three years ago and raised thousands of dollars for Liberian orphan relief. Her crafts included handmade paper, art cards and other handmade paper items constructed from plant materials grown on her farm.

"Many people try to do a lot of their gift shopping here because they want to support the cause," said Turner.

The Doughnuts and More booth experienced a constant stream of business. Junior John Mills said he came to the market frequently just to pick up a couple of freshly made doughnuts. Oddly enough, the well-known bakery items were originally meant to be raspberries.

"Well, we had extra raspberries in the garden so we thought we'd sell raspberries at the farmers market," explained owner Rosalind Byler. "Until the raspberries got ripe, we said we'd sell doughnuts and pies. By the time raspberry season came around, everyone else had raspberries so we decided to just not do raspberries." Her six homeschooled children helped to make the doughnuts, beginning at four in the morning.

Some were led to the farmers market by their sweet tooth, but others came with a healthy mindset.

"I like being able to know where my food comes from. I like to know how far my food has traveled, who's handled it and what's going into it, because I'm putting that into my body, which is important," said graduate student Kelly Patullo. "I like being able to know where my food comes from. I like to know how far my food has traveled, who's handled it and what's going into it, because I'm putting that into my body, which is important," said graduate student Kelly Patullo. Patullo shopped for vegetables, bread and cheese at the farmers market during most weekends and many Thursdays. She said these trips probably replaced 95 percent of her grocery shopping.

Patullo brought her friend and fellow graduate student, Jessica O'Brien, along for a visit to the market.

"I just typically go to the grocery store every week, but Kelly always comes to class with wonderful smelling bread and cheese and I just wanted to come," said O'Brien, who liked the sugary aroma of kettle corn loomed in the air. The parking lot was full; bikes leaned against trees. The happy chatter of young families, older couples, pets, farmers, crafters and bakers rose from what was once just a municipal lot. It was a typical Saturday morning at the farmers market.
Harrisonburg's Farmers Market is located on South Main Street, less than a mile from campus. Voted "Best Place to be on a Saturday Morning" by the "Daily News Record," students did not mind investing 10 to 15 minutes to walk to the weekly market.

In reference to price differences between grocery stores and the market, O'Brien said, "I would say maybe it's a little more, but because you can taste it and because you can see where it came from I feel like it's worth it."

This idea of knowing where your food came from and the awareness of the importance and benefits of eating locally and supporting local sustainable agriculture continues to grow, the Harrisonburg Farmers Market looks forward to being an even more vital part of the growing community it serves.

There was another key element in the lure of the farmers market. Students ran into friends and stopped to talk. Families sat down to nibble on their purchases with strollers and dogs on leashes. Instead of hurrying off to their cars once their bags were full, townspeople sat down on benches to converse with each other. A farmer took a handful of kettle corn he had bought from across the pavilion and offered some to the Mennonite woman in the booth next to him. There was definitely another reason people ventured to the farmers market and no, it was not because Saturday morning cartoons are not what they used to be. It was the atmosphere.

"It's a friendly place," said Byler. Turner also agreed that the atmosphere was welcoming. "I just think it's a friendlier atmosphere here," echoed Patullo. "You can talk to people and people have time to talk to you and explain things and answer your questions and I think that's important."
events helped freshmen get acclimated to the university

Orientation Peer Adviser (OPA)

by britni geer [writer]

ampler Hall, "Wamp," or "The Estate," as referred to by the Orientation Team (O-Team), was home to Sally Boyd, an Orientation Peer Adviser (OPA), throughout Summer Springboard. With only about a month at home, orientation quickly consumed all of Boyd's summer. With eight days of First-year Springboard training and four days of Transfer Springboard training, Boyd endured early mornings, late nights, and D-hall meals, but had the experience of a lifetime.

"When I was a 2k9 FROG (First yearR Orientation Guide), I was supervised, trained and inspired by my two OPAs," said Boyd. "I understood what Orientation was really all about and I wanted to continue to contribute to it, but the application process was stressful, and I had left my individual interview in tears."

With only 28 spots to fill, the application process to become an OPA proved challenging for Boyd. A paper application, a group interview and an individual interview left many candidates nervous. During her individual interview, Boyd had a cold and stumbled over her words while trying to stifle her coughs. Much to her surprise, Boyd received a phone call during finals week last December that changed her outlook.

"Kelly Rifenbark, the Coordinator of Student Staff, said, 'Hello Sally. We thank you for applying for the OPA position, and it was really great getting to know you through the process, but...we'd love for you to be a part of our 2010 team,'" said Boyd. "I screamed in her ear that, yes, I wanted the position. I was completely shocked that I had still gotten the job."

With a go time of usually 6 a.m., Boyd and her fellow OPAs had morning routines of playing music and dancing around before heading to D-hall or "D-hiz," as they called it, for breakfast. Early mornings tired Boyd, especially during finals week last December that changed her outlook.

"Some mornings I would wake up and go to campus but not be actually awake and aware until I a.m., with a cleanup crew following the event. I was exhausted. I've never pushed my body so far on so little sleep," said Boyd. "Some mornings I would wake up and go to campus but not be actually awake and aware until breakfast. We played music in the morning to wake us up and after breakfast during Springboard we would sing the National Anthem."

Summer springboard consisted of checking in students, waving to cars, directing traffic, discussions with students, sessions about general education and lunch and dinner at D-hiz. 1787 included directing students to meetings, leading
and overseeing the FROGs, FROG discussions, and of course icebreakers.

“Every day and every group were different and impacted me in a different way,” said Boyd. “Sometimes, a student would be leaving for the day and run up to me, show me their schedule, and hug me saying thank you. The small things that happened nearly every day impacted me the most.”

1787 didn’t involve as many placements for Boyd, but the days lasted about six hours longer than springboard days. First-year move in day, the first morning of 1787, Boyd got to watch her FROGs interact with students and families, which ended as her favorite day of 1787.

“We had just gone through three intense days of training and everyone was tired but they were so awesome that morning,” said Boyd. “I would see them carrying a big fridge up the stairs, sweating through their FROG shirt but smiling the whole time. I loved when I would hear a parent telling a FROG or another OPA that they really appreciated Orientation. I couldn’t stop smiling.”

Although it took some FROGs time to break out of their comfort zone, Boyd enjoyed watching the positive outcome that resulted from their hard work and dedication.

“I loved being able to be there and support them throughout the experience,” said Boyd. “The best moment of 1787 for me was when a girl who had previously struggled to bring her group into a good discussion ran up and said that the discussion they had just had was amazing and she was so happy. I was absolutely thrilled for her.”

Boyd’s FROGs looked to her for advice and comfort during difficult or challenging times, including times where first years just didn’t seem to cooperate with their FROGs.

“Sally was my OPA and I had a lot of first years that were males and at times could be uncooperative,” said senior FROG Eileen Proto. “I came to Sally for advice and she gave me pointers with how to deal with the situations. She also gave me feedback along with the confidence to handle the group when times got hard.”

A summer full of training, heat, late nights, early mornings, and D-hiz everyday proved challenging at times for Boyd, however, on a brighter note, Boyd and her fellow OPAs impacted FROGs, first-years, transfers, and families in ways they will never forget.
Freshman DNA Dance

by Allison Lagonigro (writer)

Each summer before moving to the university and beginning 1787 Orientation, first-year students are required to complete a summer reading. The Class of 2014 read “The DNA Age,” a series of articles written by Amy Harmon. The articles, which won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for expository writing, dealt with issues of identity, birthright, ethics and history. These readings were used during 1787 Orientation as students took part in small faculty-led group discussions and created the framework for the DNA Dance.

Each orientation reading selection is typically used for two years, making the summer of 2010 the second year for “The DNA Age.” When planning the orientation events, however, the reading was approached differently.

“It was really a unique and a once in a lifetime opportunity for the incoming class,” said Orientation Director, Tisha McCoy-Ntiamoah. “For first-year students that came in this year, this will be a defining moment for them as they walk around campus year after year and are still wearing those T-shirts. They’ll be able to look around campus and know who’s in their class because only the students in their class have that T-shirt.”

This new addition to the orientation program combined students’ ideas and reactions to the summer reading with dance elements. The dance was developed in the middle of the summer by OPAs and members of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange. The OPAs worked hard to not only make the dance fun, but also easy to do for all the first-years.

“Getting everyone to participate was difficult, just because they were divided into groups based on shirt color,” said sophomore OPA Paula Garavel. “Once they got it, it was really cool to see them cooperate and do it with you.”

Before the event, the FROGs taught the moves to their first-years, preparing them for the dance. During the dance, students created a “DNA strand” that spaned the length of the Quad, creating a representation of what they had been reading and discussing.

“The DNA Dance was fun because it was finally a chance to be together with all the other first-year students,” said freshman Emily Northup.

Although the likelihood of another DNA Dance is slim, the Orientation office is committed to making orientation as valuable to new freshmen as possible.

“It was important because it opened me up to meet new people, which is a huge deal during orientation,” said freshman Kolbie Owens.

FROGs and Freshmen throw their hands up in the air during the DNA dance. The dance took place on the quad stretching from Wilson Hall to South Main Street. photo by (brandon payne)
What to expect,” said freshman Meredith Cotton. “I did random roommates and having new experiences. Cotton moved into Hillside Hall on Aug. 25, surrounded by eager hallmates and enthusiastic FROGs. After what seemed like only a few short seconds, her car was unloaded.

“Someone said [move-in] would take forever, but [the FROGs] got our stuff really fast,” said Cotton. After much anticipation, she headed to the top floor to meet her random roommate.

Not knowing what to expect, she soon said goodbye to her parents and began her surprisingly eventful orientation week.

“It felt a little weird [when my parents left], but FROG week was so busy that it was hard to even find time to think about missing home,” said Cotton.

During the week, in addition to all of the mandatory FROG events, Cotton enjoyed spending her nights at the comedy show, the Pep Rally, We Are JMU and Madison at Midnight.

Throughout all the Orientation activities, Cotton had the chance to hang out with some of her best friends from high school, who also lived in Hillside Hall. However, Cotton also made new friends in her dorm.

“I really liked meeting all the girls on my hall and spending time with them,” said Cotton.

Looking back on her eventful orientation week, Cotton realized she was really appreciative for all the events that allowed her to meet so many new people.

“I [found the events] helpful because I liked being with the girls in my hall,” said Cotton. “By the end of the week I was ready to be done with all the ice breakers and events and get started with a normal routine, but I’d say it was worth it.”

At the same time, she was ready to finally explore the unknown—classes.

“Orientation was memorable,” said Cotton. “The one word I would use to describe it would be ‘enthusiasm.’ Everyone just had so much spirit and seemed so excited about JMU. It made me really excited about coming here.”
Freshmen Firsts

by kaleigh somers (writer)

Junior Jarvis Mitchum and Sophomore Katherine Wrona agree, that being a First Year Orientation Guide (FROG) is a life-changing experience. Their journey began in February with an application process spanning until late April.

According to Wrona, after 600 students applied for the FROG position, only 254 were offered the job. Applicants participated in a group interview with 30 people and, if chosen, 30-minute individual follow-up interviews before final cuts were made. Training began on April 27, 2010.

"That was a chill day," said Mitchum. "That was easy."

They spent most of the day going over administrative details and handing out binders hill of important information.

The real work began just days before the freshmen arrived, agreeing, that being a First Year Orientation Guide (FROG) is a life-changing experience. Their journey began in February with an application process spanning until late April.

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They spent most of the day going over administrative details and handing out binders full of important information.

The real work began just days before the freshmen arrived, meeting with their assigned Orientation Peer Advisors (OPA). With the freshmen assigned to two FROGs and two OPAs assigned to oversee the two FROGs, Wrona said it acted as a network.

After freshmen moved into their dorms August 24 and 25, the FROGs' schedules became busier. Days started at 7 a.m. and ended around 11 p.m. or midnight.

"After this week, I feel like I could conquer anything," said Mitchum.

He and Wrona survived a demanding week of 14-hour days, coming home to plan for the following day's activities.

Still, downtime seemed to be the hardest part of the day.

"Sometimes the long work days were exhausting. The energy from the first years would give us the momentum to get through the day, so it made things a lot easier," said Mitchum.

"When we're with our first-years, we don't even notice that we only got three hours of sleep," said Wrona.

The two agreed that they fed off the energy of their freshman groups.

Neither felt unprepared to handle the week's many demands. Wrona felt the training really prepared the FROGs for anything.

"The training was very thorough," she said. 

"They gave us examples about types of freshmen we might encounter." She had to learn to adapt to each freshman accordingly, meeting their needs. For her, the goal was to "help [the freshmen] love JMU as much as I do."

As the week progressed from move-in day to Convocation, Mitchum and Wrona noticed a visible change in their first-years.

"They're more grateful than I thought they would be," she said.

Wrona agreed that coming into a school without understanding simple concepts like the meal plan and punches made the freshmen eager to listen and learn from their FROGs.

"They're more grateful than I thought they would be," she said.

"They respect authority. They want to know your opinions."

At the end of the week, Mitchum felt like he had prepared his first-years for the coming years, helping them better adjust to college life.
A freshman and her family take a break from move-in day. Due to Wayland being under construction there was an increased number of triples.

photo by (kristin mcgregor)

Students take the Freshmen Assessment Test in Health and Sciences Building. All freshmen were required to take the test.

photo by JMU photography services (diane elliott)
the dukes make history in unbelievable upset

Finding a hole, senior Jamal Sullivan runs the ball through the Virginia Tech defense. Even in cold and wet conditions, the Dukes outplayed the Hokies and ended up with a victory.

photo by (photographer's name)
"I don't think anyone expected us to win," said sophomore Amber Sherman. "It was sure to be a blowout by Tech and we were just hoping to at least score while we were there. I left at halftime because of the rain, but continued to watch the game on television."

Despite the non-stop rain and cold weather, the Dukes did more than just score. By the beginning of the fourth quarter the Dukes took the lead giving Tech a run for their money making the score 21-16. The purpled out student section cheered and hollered with chants like "J-M-U wish you had a duke dog" and "J-M-U dukes."

"Being in the student section was crazy," said sophomore Michael Prior. "There was so much energy and excitement. Everyone was on their toes waiting for the clock to run down. I couldn't even feel the rain or the cold by the fourth quarter [because] I was so into the game. I'm so glad I went, it was one of the best experiences of my life."

Meanwhile, the Hokie stands started clearing as the reality of losing became apparent. The Hokies were running out of time and fans.

"We were really disappointed with the loss but I'm still proud to call myself a Hokie," said Virginia Tech sophomore Laura Craig. "I think the entire Hokie Nation felt let down but I chose to come to this school for a reason and I still love my Hokies."

The stands erupted with cheers from the Madison student section and they continued as the fans funneled out of the stadium. Back in Harrisonburg, students rushed Bridgeforth Stadium to welcome back the players while others drove around blaring "We are the Champions" and shouting J-M-U chants outside of apartment complexes and residence halls.

"I stayed in town during the game and checked online to see what the score was," said junior Melissa Illidge. "I couldn't believe that we were actually winning and as soon as the game was over I could hear people outside yelling and cheering. I'm not even that big of a fan of football but this game and win was incredible."

Although the rain and the looming presence of a most likely loss meant setbacks for the football team, the Dukes came prepared to make history. From students and faculty to parents and alumni, people were proud to call themselves Dukes and celebrated the unpredictable win.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT

king of the crop: documentarians speak about sustainability

by sarah lockwood (writer)

The first weed that they found was actual weed. Their crop was inedible and they lost $19 before government subsidies. Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis had a lot to learn about America's biggest cash crop, but that's why they moved to Greene, Iowa and grew an acre of corn: to learn and film a documentary.

This documentary became "King Corn." A packed auditorium in Miller Hall watched this Peabody Award-winning film along with its 30-minute follow-up, "Big River." The following night Cheney and Ellis came to the university to give a speech about sustainability titled "Back to Back to the Land." Again, the auditorium, this one in Harrison Hall, was packed.

During their speech they explained that, throughout college, Cheney and Ellis felt like something was missing. They felt uneasy about the onset of the digital world and yearned to "get back to the land." After college they decided to go to Iowa and grow an acre of corn, taking Ellis' cousin to film it.

The two explored the entire life of corn including how it affected the people growing it, as well as where it went after it was harvested. Cheney and Ellis discovered that the American diet is full of corn through corn syrup and corn-fed animals. This was one point that seemed to surprise most students.

"Corn is in everything that we eat. It was a real eye-opener to see just how influential this crop is on our daily lives," said sophomore Christina Damico.

Sophomore Maggie Ford went to the screening and also found it revealing.

"It made me think about it. I was eating corn at D-hall today. It'll make me think more about my choices of food," said Ford.

The documentary also emphasized the role of corn syrup in American obesity and diabetes in addition to the effects of feeding cattle corn. Corn, the documentary

Documentarian Ian Cheney speaks to students and faculty about the pair's plans for future documentaries. Cheney and Ellis, best friends from college, moved to Greene, Iowa, where their ancestors had once lived, to film their documentary.

photo by ashley creech
explained, is not a part of a natural cattle diet. In fact, it gave them stomach ulcers if they were not slaughtered for meat approximately 120 days after the initial feeding. Corn became a main feed product, because it fattens quickly and is cheaper.

“My favorite part of the film was when they discussed corn-fed beef and how most Americans under the age of 30 have never had anything but corn-fed beef,” said sophomore Kate Sharp, who chose this event to write about for GGEOG 200. “I was interested in learning about the health ramifications of eating corn-fed beef.”

The next night, class assignments, as well as personal interest, brought many students to listen to Cheney and Ellis speak.

“It’s weird that we saw them on screen just last night and now there they are,” Ford whispered to her friend as the pair walked in.

Erica Bleeg, an English professor who teaches a course about food writing, initiated the planning of these events and, with help from many departments, brought the two to campus.

She explained that her desire to share the message with the university “comes from a genuine care about [her] students’ health and their awareness, but also the health of the nation. I feel like the more people who are aware of how negatively this industrial system impacts the populations... the more people there are who will have the opportunity to make different choices... the more likely it is that we might be able to change the system,” said Bleeg. “I wish that when I was a college student that... films like this existed.”

She gave Cheney and Ellis a heart-felt introduction conveying her appreciation for their work.

“They serve to inform, awaken and entertain,” said Bleeg.

And they did. With their casual personas, comedic relief, and humorous video clips, the crowd laughed a lot. But they were also informed about some of the projects the two friends were working on after “King Corn,” such as how they stayed connected to their food even in New York City by planting an edible garden in the back of a pickup truck. They use this “truck farm” as a tool for their message about sustainability and fresh food.

Their final pitch was about their upcoming project called Food Corps. This branch of AmeriCorps would allow young people to work around the country, helping implement fresh food and agriculture programs in schools.

“The goal is to address [the American youth] obesity problem and help kids get hooked on good, fresh food,” said Ellis. “At the same time, we hope that this year of getting your hands dirty might help the service members get some very practical training. We see this as really creating a new generation of farmers and helping to reconnect this generation back to the land.”

Bleeg had three students express a desire to volunteer, but even though the entire audience did not leave with FoodCorps in their dreams, they did leave with it on their minds.

“I never really thought about exactly where my food comes from and how it affects the people that produce it,” said freshman Tabitha Marchuk. “I will definitely think about where my food comes from now.”

Looking up at the screen, documentarian Curt Ellis speaks to the packed audience. The previous night, students viewed Ian Cheney and Ellis’ documentaries, “King Corn” and “Big River,” both of which dealt with their experiences working on a corn farm in Greene, Iowa. (Photo by Ashley Creech)

Standing in front of the crowd, English Professor Erica Bleeg introduces her friends and guests, Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis. Bleeg, who taught Food Writing along with many other classes at the university, was one of the leading forces behind bringing the two documentary makers to the university. (Photo by Ashley Creech)
Hen sophomore Sarah Everett decided to interpret former President James Madison, her father gave her this advice: “Take Madison and take theater and put them together, but make it professional and scholarly.” Since then, the transfer student from the University of Alaska Southeast, formed a deep love for all things James Madison and has turned it into a unique hobby. What originally started out as a history project, in which students were required to research a president, soon turned into something bigger for Everett. The decision as to which president to learn about was a simple one.

“I saw Madison’s picture and his name, and just his initial image, the image of the man, is what first attracted me,” said Everett. “I didn’t know anything about him, but there was an immediate connection.”

Since then, Everett has dedicated her life to studying the life of James Madison intensively. She has read every book she could get her hands on, yet still thirsts for more knowledge. Instead of learning more about the other founding fathers, she has enjoyed reading about them through Madison’s eyes.

“I think it would be arrogant of me to say I know everything, because no scholar, even if they’ve studied someone or something for 40 years, could say that they know everything. That’s impossible,” said Everett. “I’m still realizing things about Madison, about his views, about his life as I both learn myself and interpret Madison professionally.”

Everett’s first interpretation of Madison took place right where her story began—in her high school history classroom.

Not only did Everett have a passion for Madison, but she also had the physical characteristics to match her favorite president. Weighing only 100 pounds, and standing at 5 feet tall, Everett’s physical characteristics made her the perfect Madison interpreter.

“I’m sharing what I love and what I know in a way that nobody else does, and no one else could do, unless they look like Madison,” said Everett.

Having lived in Alaska with her family for the past eight years, Everett claimed the community also helped shape her. Everett is secure and confident in who she is, admitting she didn’t have stage fright, and that her personality came from her hometown.

“Alaska is a very nurturing, independent, bold community that is not afraid to be fearless and really encourage something like that,” said Everett. “Growing up in Alaska really incorporated itself into my boldness in interpreting Madison.”
There isn't anything that Everett doesn't like about Madison. From admiring his good looks to his modesty and intelligence, Everett finds Madison to be an incredible man. "He was the one who really invented our country, but he's not given that credit because he never took the spotlight," said Everett. "Jefferson and Washington, his closest associates who were also presidents, they get all the spotlight, they have all the monuments. Madison never got it, but he was the brain behind the whole thing."

After moving into Bell Hall on Aug. 27, 2010, Everett began to make Madison's presence on campus known. During 1787 Orientation, Everett walked around campus, occasionally speaking with students. Though at first she received confused glances from some students, soon the campus picked up her passion for Madison.

"For the most part, students here love what I do, and I'm really inspired by that and really touched by having such a wonderful reception," said Everett. "I am finally in a place where Madison is actually wanted."

The majority of students at the university enjoyed Everett's interpretations, and after numerous public appearances, Everett was well-known throughout the campus.

"I think she has a lot of courage to dress up like that," said senior Brittany Young. "She's definitely getting recognition for being bold in her convictions."

While Everett was not sure what the future will bring, she does know that Madison will remain a big part of her life.

"I would love to be an official interpreter of Madison, but I don't want to say for sure that's what I'm going to do because I remain open," said Everett. "I certainly want to make it a goal of mine to continue interpretation for as long as people will have me."
Wilson Hall auditorium came alive on Sept. 24 as more than 500 people saw Cartel, a pop-punk band from Atlanta, Ga., shake the building with a heavy bass and an energetic stage presence.

Long-time Cartel fans were thrilled to hear the band was coming to the university.

“I was really excited,” said Alex Payne, sophomore. “Personally, I freaked out.”

Payne and her friends arrived at 6:30 p.m. hoping to stand in the coveted general admission section. Only 75 concert-goers were able to do so, their wrists marked with orange bands.

Sophomore Christine McNamara also arrived early to stand in general admission. McNamara considers herself a Cartel “mega-fan.”

“It was a lot more exciting [being in the front],” McNamara said. “You got more into it. There was a lot more dancing around.”

The concert began with the university’s own Casey Cavanagh, junior, performing songs off his album “Square One” to energize the crowd.

Cavanagh and his band finished up singing a rendition of Katy Perry’s “Teenage Dream,” which received lots of love from the crowd.

“Katy Perry is our biggest influence,” Cavanagh joked. As soon as the lights turned off, signaling Cartel’s arrival on stage, the screaming began. The lead singer, Will Pugh, transitioned into “Luckie St.,” the band’s first song off their demo EP release in 2004, getting the crowd on their feet.

Song choice switched gears to Cartel’s latest single, “Let Go,” a high-energy song that perfectly suited the opening of the show. As Pugh sang the lyrics to, “I’ll start with this song,” and “stand up with me,” the crowd got on their feet, as people lined along the stage threw their hands in the air.

Familiar tracks continued with “Faster Ride” off its third album, “Cycles,” “Runaway,” and “Burn This City” from “Chroma.” Any signs that the crowd wasn’t fully on board with the performance disappeared as Cartel launched into a slowed down, heartfelt cover of Oasis’ “Wonderwall,” complete with a guitar interlude in the middle.

“I somehow always wind up out of breath after that song,” Pugh said. “[I] scream it with passion.”

Pugh encouraged the audience to sing along before beginning the opening lyrics to “Say Anything (Else),” and the crowd listened, fusing energy into the dark auditorium. Almost no transition led into the
band's biggest hit, "Honestly," as the sounds of synchronized clapping filled the room.

Cartel finished the night with "The Perfect Mistake," but not before the crowd started a low roar, chanting "one more song" for an encore performance of "Settle Down." Pugh threw himself into the performance and the crowd took it all in grateful.

Senior Kathy Stotler had no expectations going into the night, but was satisfied by the end of the concert.

"I've actually never heard of Cartel before, but I love concerts so I bought a ticket and I loved it," said Stotler, who spent the days leading up to the concert memorizing the band's song lyrics.

Senior Erin Andrea agreed.

"[Cartel] had really good stage presence, lots of good energy," Stotler said. "They did a really fun concert."

Cartel's performance marked the beginning of the Wilson Hall Concert Series, a new program implemented by the University Program Board (UPB).

"We looked at the dates that we had and we were extremely excited," said UPB's Director of Center Stage, Marino.

UPB had conflicts with affordability and scheduling acts at the Convocation Center.

"Instead of limiting ourselves, let's try to open it up and do something different," said Marino.

She said they found three artists in their price range with dates that worked with scheduling at the Wilson Hall venue.

"We thought this would be something really great and new. We could reach some niche markets that maybe don't feel like they've been hit," said Marino.

She said UPB was concerned that people thought some genres, especially hip-hop, were overrepresented at previous concerts.

"Now we have alternative punk and indie pop artists on two sides of that with Cartel and Sara Bareilles," said Marino.

B.O.B. performed at Wilson Hall on Oct. 28 and Sara Bareilles performed on Dec. 2.

"It's for the students," said Marino. "It makes me happy that we can do something and people end up accepting it because that's what it's here for."
When people heard “Family Weekend,” they tended to want to flee the campus. Images of mobs of parents and traffic jams of minivans came to mind. While the weekend was marked by various planned events, a sea of purple apparel and long lines, there was much more beneath the surface.

“It was fun to show them what I did all day, like, ‘this is what your little college baby does,’” said freshman Gabrielle Gatten.

For Gatten, Family Weekend meant the first time her parents and her sister saw her in her living the life as a Duke. It was a chance for them to see who her friends were, what she did in her free time and what she was dedicating herself to.

“I felt like they were more excited for me,” said Gatten. “They got to see how excited I was to be in college. My mom kept saying how she wished she could go to college again."

It was also a chance for Gatten’s family to become a part of the university tradition.

“My dad was all intense with the game and my mom just kept asking what was going on the whole time,” said Gatten.

While it was the very beginning of the next four years for the Gatten family, it was the end of four years for the Alexander family.

Jeffery Alexander’s parents had come for every family weekend and they weren’t about to break tradition for his senior year.

However, this year they put a twist on the weekend. Instead of participating in every university program, he planned a weekend for his parents off-campus. They went to Block Party in the ‘Burg, drove around the surrounding area, and explored downtown.

“I think we wanted to do something different, knowing it was the last time to do it,” said Alexander. “My parents really enjoyed it. They didn’t realize I had a life here. I got to show them what I have here, what I like doing, who my friends are, what my life is like, the community that surrounds me that I love and enjoy. I was able to show them more than any year. The structured events are what JMU has to offer, not what I have.”

However, the Alexanders couldn’t give up some traditions, like the football game and the Fantastic Feast at D-Hall. Still, nothing felt the “same-old-same-old.”

“The first time they came for parents weekend they were seeing me as a student for the first time,” said Alexander. "This year we were picking out frames for my diploma and planning how to move me south for grad school.”

This chance for students to show a little chunk of their lives kept the massive crowds coming back each year for this weekend. And while it was the last hurrah for the Alexander Family, it was the beginning of new traditions for the Gatten Family.

“They’re definitely coming back,” said Gatten with a smile. “And I’ll have to babysit them again.”

Taking a snapshot with the Duke Dog, freshman Justin McManus and his family take a break outside Bridgeforth Stadium. The Duke Dog statue was a popular spot for students, faculty and families to pose for a picture during their time at the university.

photo by (leslie haase)
Enjoying a stroll, a father and son head back to the crowd of tailgaters. Tents featuring the university's mascot and logo were a popular commodity at football tailgates.

photo by Leslie Haase

Hanging out before the game, families enjoy a tailgate full of food and friends. Many students held tailgates with their roommates and friends, which created an opportunity for students' parents to meet.

photo by Leslie Haase

Filing into the stadium, members of the Marching Royal Dukes get ready to perform. The Marching Royal Dukes have performed for a number of different audiences over the years, including NFL games and for Walt Disney Productions.

photo by Leslie Haase
The Quad was officially completed with the addition of the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, which was completed in July 2010. The building was the new home for the School of Theatre and Dance and had space available for performances by the School of Music and showcases for the School of Art and Art History.

In years past, concerts and other performances were held all over campus, including the Latimer-Schaffer Theater in Duke Hall, Memorial Hall, Wilson Hall and the Convocation Center. Each of these locations were decent for holding concerts and other events, but the acoustics were never ideal and seating was limited. The idea of opening a new concert hall became a reality through the university administration's generous private donors, including Bruce and Lois J. Cardarella Forbes, Richard D. and Shirley Hanson Roberts and Charles Edwin and Susan E. Estes.

"In Latimer-Schaffer, we always sold out of shows quickly," said theater professor Rob Smith. "Now there are much more ticket sales."

According to Smith, the seating capacity is a great asset to the new building, which Latimer-Schaffer lacked. While the other venues were still open for performances, theater, dance and music majors now had an incredible venue to show off their talents.

"In Wilson Hall last year it was like 'singing into a pillow' according to our director," said sophomore David Mann. "Now we can adjust the decay and reverb to whatever suits the performance. It's really cool. You can make the concert hall sound like a small room or like you're singing in a huge cathedral."

Not only was the new Forbes Center a great place for the artistic majors to grow, but it was also opened to guest performances.

In performances during the 2010-2011 Masterpiece Season, the seating allowed the audience to see incredible special effects. In the Latimer-Schaffer Theater, where the Masterpiece Season was formerly held, the stage was situated at eye-level or above the audience. In the Forbes Center, the seats are all situated above the stage. In "Metamorphoses," the audience was able to look down and see the pool of water on stage that
Junior Carolyn MacLeod studies before class outside of the new Forbes Center at the entrance to the tunnel. The tunnel connected the Forbes Center to the Bluestone Area of campus, providing students a better way to cross South Main Street. (photo by Julia Nashwinter)

A view from the second floor window looks onto one of the glass bridges that connect the wings of the building. The center featured five performance hall venues for student and guest dancers, actors and musicians. (photo by Julia Nashwinter)

played a major role in the production. This would not have been as easily seen in Latimer-Schaffer.

The building wasn’t built for the sole purpose of making some of the university’s most talented performers look and sound better. It also brought more resources to the School of Theatre and Dance, including more classrooms and rehearsal and office facilities.

The Theatre Department was able to become a much tighter group.

“We’re all together now,” said Smith. “Before, we were all over campus, now we’re more closely knit as a department.”

While Wilson Hall still held events, such as UPB Concert Series, the Forbes Center hosted the entire Masterpiece Season, which included events such as improvisational comedy by Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood of “Whose Line is it Anyway?,” to operas and orchestras.

The new array of performances available at the university encouraged many students, including students outside of the arts, to go to university sponsored events.

“I’d be more inclined to see a theater performance at the Forbes Center because it’s new, and I want to check it out,” said sophomore Laura Danaher.

The opportunities that the center brought to the university made it even better known for the arts, and brought in revenue to the school, especially the School of Theatre and Dance.

Both academic and financial investors involved in the Forbes Center would love to see the new addition advance the Theatre Department.

“[I hope it] helps students not involved in theater come into the building,” said Smith.
dissecting DREAMS

dream expert reveals students' subconscious

by allison killam (writer)

Who here has had a dream about death? dream expert Greg Hoeflicker asked. Nearly everyone in the audience at Grafton-Stovall Theatre raised their hand. Hoeflicker visited the university Sept. 13 to explain to students how and why we dream and how to interpret them.

"Who here has had a dream where you fall off the building or cliff? Who's heard that if you hit the ground, you die?" Hoeflicker asked.

The hands stayed up.

"Who here has had a dream where you're doing the killing?" he asked. One lone hand was raised and everyone laughed.

At the age of 19, Hoeflicker had a recurring dream of his own execution. He heard about the National Dream Hotline on the radio, and decided to call. He learned that death in a dream symbolizes change.

Since then, he has studied at the School of Metaphysics and learned the language and symbols of dreaming. Now, he's able to travel to campuses across the nation to help others interpret their dreams.

He explained to the students that every dream you have is about yourself.

"Secondly, every person, place, or thing in your dreams is an aspect or quality of you. Thirdly, your dreams are reflecting your thoughts," said Hoeflicker.

Dreams are a reflection of your thoughts and attitudes of the previous day, said Hoeflicker. When you dream, you are digesting what happened during the day and your subconscious turns that into symbols within your dreams.

Before opening up the question and answer part of the program, Hoeflicker asked if there were members of the audience who didn't remember their dreams. A few hands were raised.

"There's a simple reason for not remembering your dreams—you wake up and you move on. It's in those first few minutes when you wake up," explained Hoeflicker.

People forget their dreams because they are in a rush to start the day. So in order to remember your dreams, Hoeflicker encouraged getting out of bed slowly.

"It's so weird, I don't want to scare anybody," said sophomore Bethany Coyle about her dream. She laughed and continued to tell the story of the time she dreamt she ate her niece. The good news was she was trying to get her niece out of the dream.

"Stubborn," said Coyle, when Hoeflicker asked her to describe her niece.

That quality, of stubbornness, is actually a reflection on you, Hoeflicker explained. Since Coyle ingested her niece, she was being stubborn that previous day. But by trying to get her niece out, Coyle's subconscious was trying to tell herself to stop being stubborn.

"Who has dreams about their teeth falling out?" said Hoeflicker. He said it was a pretty common dream for college students, because teeth are the tools to help you eat. What you ingest is knowledge, so if the knowledge you received was overwhelming and you couldn't take it all in, perhaps you lose your teeth at night.

If someone is trying to kill you, which is very common under the age of 25, it is because someone is trying to find their way. Hoeflicker continued to say it means there are "changes..."
Walking across the stage, Greg Hoeflicker explains his own experiences with dreams to the audience. Hoeflicker's interest in dreams began at age 19, when he had recurring dreams about being executed.

He asked if anyone had ever experienced lucid dreaming, which is the ability to control dreams. Freshman Connor Vaughn said he could make himself fly in his dreams.

"I always have trouble jumping off the ground, because of gravity, but after a couple tries, I can fly," said Vaughn.

"Look at your hand, say, 'Oh now I'm awake in my dream.' Now say that 100 times a day. The discipline part is hard, it's hard to think positive," said Hoeflicker.

It is one way to be able to control your dreams.

"I keep having dreams I'm having a baby...but it doesn't feel like a good thing," said senior Alison Long, as her peers surrounding her laughed.

"Babies represent new ideas or new ways of life—it's bringing a new idea into the world," said Hoeflicker.

"I have the classic in my underwear dream!" shouted a student from the audience.

"Oh that's a great dream!" said Hoeflicker, laughing. "Being naked represents being open and honest. So you were worried about opening up, but it's fine."

One girl said her roommate only dreamt in black and white. Hoeflicker explained black and white is the shallowest level of sleep.

"I would encourage them to relax more before going to bed. They're probably stressed about something," said Hoeflicker.

Hoeflicker was a public speaker for a corporation until one day, while speaking at an event, dreams came up, and his whole speech got carried away.

"I felt like it was a calling. I didn't plan on it, but I had something to give," he said.

Students left the program talking to each other about their new understanding of dreams. Vaughn said he enjoyed the program because he was able to learn what his dreams have been telling him all along."

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HEALTHY HOMES
nursing students provide healthcare for local residents

by Jennifer Beers [writer]

The university's nursing program excelled in more ways than one, especially its care for Home Health. It was a requirement of nursing students, in which they provided care for people and families experiencing chronic illness. The goal of home care was to allow patients to remain living at home, regardless of age or disability.

Home health provided care for anyone with a life-threatening illness, such as dementia, Alzheimer disease, severe heart disease, lung disease, kidney or liver disease, stroke, nerve or muscle deterioration and cancer. The program worked closely with primary physicians, nurses, aides, social workers, chaplains, therapist and volunteers. The university's nursing program worked with agencies that provided home healthcare and medical equipment, such as Rockingham Memorial Hospital (RMH) and Augusta Health, First Choice and RMII hospice.

"Compared to other nursing programs that I've heard of, JMU's program is above and beyond. Their standards are set so much higher. They expect so much out of us," said Senior Caroline O'Hara. "They expose us to all of the different opportunities nursing has to offer."

Each year, seniors completed a 7-week block of home health taught by professors Kathy Floyd and Susan Brooks. They completed 38 hours of care in about two months, and were free to go wherever their schedules allowed.

"They end the practicum with very deep reflection, writing of their time spent in hospice and home health, and how it has changed them for the better, both as a human being and a nurse," said Brooks.

The course was designed for students to accompany nurses from various home health agencies on visits, where they assisted them with patient assessments, patient teaching, care planning and interventions. The interventions included dressing changes and administering IV medication to patients. The students were hands-on with the patients by performing physical assessments, taking vital signs, pain assessment and therapeutic communication.

"Getting to know the patients and their families, and providing emotional, physical and spiritual care is most rewarding," said senior Lauren Gerl. "I was sad to end this clinical because I had started to really get to know the patients and their families and I could feel myself becoming attached to them. I laughed and cried with them, it was definitely a rewarding experience."

[Photo courtesy (Lauren Gerl)]

[Left to right] Alexa Robinson, Allison Stickels, Lauren Gerl, Rachel Burke and Cory Morris display a presentation on proper hand washing techniques at Rockingham Memorial Hospital. The women were part of the university's Department of Nursing.

photo courtesy [Lauren Gerl]
Allison Stickels, Ashley Viars, and Kelley Benson from the Department of Nursing talked to kids about healthy eating habits to keep themselves healthy as rates of childhood obesity soar.
Adult education in Iraq

Adult education with a global connection

by britni geer (writer)

Prior to the first Gulf War, Iraq had one of the finest public education systems," said Dr. Laura Desportes, the department head of exceptional education. After access to education plummeted from infrastructure and violence, Desportes teamed up with other faculty members to prevent a generation from losing its education.

"After lots of research and meetings, we were able to set up video conferencing to train those who would be training Iraqi teachers," said Desportes. "Those we were conferencing with would be training teachers on how to implement literacy centers to better improve adults 15 and up literacy rate."

In October 2009, planning for the seminar began and meetings started in late March 2010. Meetings consisted of what the faculty would do and what they could offer to Iraqis.

"I was very interested in actually going to Iraq and working in person with the colleagues," said Desportes. "I had worked in India for five years so I was very comfortable with working in other countries and different cultures. Since the actual trip wasn't going to happen we came up with the next possible solution of video conferencing."

Since Desportes had to gather materials for adult literacy, she spent many hours researching theories, techniques and concepts. She put together 24-hours of instruction each week for the Iraqi trainers. The video conferencing lasted from mid-May to mid-June, four times a week.

"The seminars took place from 8 to 11:30 a.m. our time and after the Iraqi work day at 3 to 6:30 p.m. their time," said Desportes. "There were five translators, three on our end and two on theirs. It was much like any other professional seminar. The hardest part was gathering 24 hours of instruction for our colleagues. There were a lot of questions and discussions and I had to conduct extensive research to ensure that the Iraqi colleagues were understanding theories and concepts."

As a way to communicate with those in Iraq, videoconferences were set up to facilitate the training. During one particular videoconference, a sandstorm in Iraq interrupted the technological transitions of the conference, putting it on hold.

photo courtesy of Janet Smith
Researching techniques and concepts, Dr. Laura Desportes works on instructions for future teachers in Iraq. According to Desportes, Iraq had one of the best public education systems before the Gulf War.

Since the Iraqi colleagues wanted to shift toward a student-centered learning process, Desportes worked diligently to ensure that she obtained the most efficient developing instruction. She put together PowerPoint slides, wrote annotated notes, and worked with translators to convey education terms. While Desportes showed much determination on her end, the Iraqi colleagues also showed perseverance to attend the video conferencing.

"Many of the trainers had to travel across the city through four different checkpoints," said Desportes. "Once they got there they sat in a room that was 120 degrees to be at the conference. It definitely gave me a different perspective on how determined they were to learn and fix their education system."

Among the many challenges, such as sandstorms interrupting technological transmission and trying to convey messages through language barriers, Desportes hoped that video conferencing would continue at the university.

"Technology gives us a global network and I hope the university sees the value in it," said Desportes. "Video conferencing should be a 24/7 operation to reach students and colleagues all over the world to better enhance education."
keeping up with what's 'in'

2. Silly Bandz

A growing trend with the younger generation also spread to the university. Silly Bandz came in a variety of shapes and colors, some were scented, tie-dye and glow in the dark. The bookstore even sold Duke and football themed Silly Bandz in purple and gold.

3. Jeggings

Jeggings, short for jean leggings, became increasingly popular in 2010.

"I think they're really cute. They're simple. It's like jeans but thinner and much more comfortable," said sophomore Ashley Burack.

"Jeggings are very flattering if you can pull them off. They are also a little dressier than jeans so you can wear them anywhere."

4. TOMS

TOMS were the latest trend in footwear. For every pair of shoes sold, a pair was donated to a child who needed them. On April 8, 2010, students all over the university took part in TOMS One Day Without Shoes to raise awareness for the millions of children who walked barefoot every day. Blake Mycoskie, the founder of TOMS shoes, spoke at the senior convocation held at the university on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

5. Going Green

The university's construction had been geared toward going green. The patio outside Warren Hall was redone with a shale deck that absorbed water and kept watersheds clean. Wayland Hall was also reconstructed to lower its environmental footprint. These reconstructed buildings, as well as E-hall and the Carrier Starbucks, achieved a Gold Leadership in Energy and Environment Design.
Posing on her way to class, freshman Caroline Rubrecht shows that Silly Bandz can complement any outfit. Silly Bandz were versatile and reflected some aspect of each person. photo by (susy moon)

Sophomore Natalie Ball gets ready to make a call on her new iPhone. The latest version of the iPhone included a special feature for video calls making it the perfect graduation present for college-bound teenagers. photo by (susy moon)

Proving very fashion forward, freshmen Josh Braden and Danny Lauro show us that Silly Bandz are not just for kids. Silly Bandz came in a variety of colors and shapes—some unique bands even glowed in the dark. photo by (susy moon)

6. Twitter Students were not the only ones taking part in the latest Twitter craze. Through Twitter, students were updated on UPB news, university sports, UREC and JMU dining. Even some major programs, such as Communication Studies, created a twitter account.

7. Rompers Rompers were a new clothing trend that combined puffy shorts and a tube top into one article of clothing.

“I think Rompers are cute, but they are really impractical because you have to take off your entire outfit to go to the bathroom,” said sophomore Holly Betancourt.

8. iPhones “I bought my iPhone because I wanted to be able to access the Internet wherever I went. And it’s 10 times better than any phone I’ve ever used,” said sophomore C.J. John.

On June 24, 2010 Apple released its latest version of the iPhone, but John was not impressed.

“Honestly, the new iPhones don’t really get that much better. The only improvements are slight ones like better cameras or a couple new features,” said John.

9. “Glee” Fox’s latest hit “Glee” was popular with audiences and critics alike. In early 2010 “Glee” was nominated for 15 Emmy awards.

“I watch Glee because it’s like high school all over again, but I don’t have to experience it for real,” said sophomore Becca Wolfe.

10. Bieber Fever Justin Bieber was the latest heartthrob to hit the music scene. The 16-year-old’s first album, “My World,” went platinum in the U.S.

“I’m sure [Bieber’s fans] are mostly preteen girls…but I think that since Usher is his mentor and ‘big brother,’ it makes it easier for other people to like him,” said junior Courtney Sibiga. “He does have an incredible voice and he actually can dance as well.”

benefits, drawbacks to living on and off-campus

by mary claire jones [writer]

For some, the choice was easy.

“I signed a two year contract to live on-campus,” said sophomore Lindsay Francomb. “And I didn’t want to have to deal with the stress of finding a house or apartment. That’s the main reason, but I also like that there’s always something happening on campus.

Francomb also found the proximity to classes another benefit of living on campus. “It’s nice also because I don’t have to find a way to campus for my classes. They’re all within walking distance,” said Francomb. “And I’m going to like having heat once it gets colder.”

However, that didn’t mean there weren’t a few downsides. “People always think I’m a freshman,” said Francomb. “And I’m looking forward to being able to live with all my friends at once.”

Proximity to friends was the main reason why others chose to live off-campus. “I wanted to live in a house with my friends,” said junior Emilie Swift. “Also, I had already lived on-campus for two years and I wanted a different experience.”

Once the decision to live off-campus was made, Swift had to decide between renting an apartment or a house. “I chose a house over an apartment partially because I was offered a lease, but mostly because I wanted to have that extra space. I wanted a yard and a porch,” said Swift. “I knew there would be certain downsides. It would be cold in the winter because heat would cost a lot, but I didn’t mind. And I enjoyed watching the house come together—I had fun choosing paint colors and getting furniture with my housemates.”

Once the preparation was over, the contentment with her decision only grew. “There are certain things I miss about being on-campus, but I love having my classes and where I live separate from each other. I love being able to actually come home after a day at school,” said Swift.

No matter whom you asked, most agreed that the university was a pretty great place to be, regardless of where you lived.

Senior Anna Thompson watches television in her apartment at Urban Exchange. Students were able to bring their own furniture to apartments, allowing them to showcase their personal tastes.

photo by {susy moon}
A view from the third floor of Urban Exchange looks onto the innovative architecture of the new, off-campus apartment complex. With a high-tech security system and bright bridges that corresponded to each floor color, creative students were especially drawn to the close apartments.

Freshman David Vicinanzo comfortably plays a video game from his dorm room in Eagle Hall. Despite not always having air conditioning, students desired on-campus housing for its convenient location.

Playing some melodic tunes, senior Jeremy Cohen relaxes for some down time in his apartment located in Urban Exchange. Students have more space off-campus to bring more things from home.

Freshmen Anna Comer, Tyler Ferring, Chris Hudgins and friends enjoy an afternoon playing ball outside of Eagle Hall. Close proximity of dormitory halls made it easy for students to meet up and get out of their rooms.

Features
The return of the student body for the fall semester brought many familiar sights back to campus. Freshmen moved into their first dorms, old friends reunited after summer vacation, and the bookstore was bustling with activity as students browsed for the correct textbooks. Yet despite the familiar atmosphere, there was one aspect of campus life that experienced a drastic change from the previous year—the party scene. The consequences of the 2010 Springfest riots were felt across campus as President Linwood H. Rose’s new directive for the university’s battle against alcohol took effect.

In contrast to previous years, parties moved from the familiar large, open-door gatherings, to smaller, closed-door venues. Following the Springfest riots, the university implemented sweeping changes to the alcohol policies, which Rose summarized in an e-mail to students over the summer break.

“Last spring semester ended with some lingering issues surrounding negative alcohol-related events off-campus. As your president and on behalf of the university community, I remain very concerned about the abuse and underage use of alcohol by some of our students,” said Rose in his e-mail to students.

The changes included hiring additional on and off-campus police officers, a more proactive and patrolling police presence, and a revision to the three strike policy, with parents being notified after the first strike.

These changes came after Rose’s call to the student body to take responsibility for their behavior and alcohol use.

“We are going to change this culture,” said Rose in the e-mail. “JMU will not be defined by a negative alcohol culture, nor will we allow it to be perpetuated. However, we cannot turn things around without your help.”

While from the student perspective the changes seemed to stem from the now infamous Springfest riots, the university expressed that the riots weren’t the only cause.

“The [policy] changes weren’t really a direct response to...
Partygoers often enjoy small, crowded dance parties in apartment living rooms, sometimes exceeding one hundred people. The increased volume of these dance parties had many people concerned after a third floor apartment floor collapsed in a Hunter's Ridge apartment complex.

Springfest certainly was an influence,” said Assistant Director Liz Howley of Judicial Affairs. “JMU has been working on its policy for a long time; I might call Springfest the tipping point.”

While the Office of Judicial Affairs didn’t play a direct role in the formulation of the new alcohol policy, they did have to deal with the consequences, as all student judicial charges and hearings were processed through the office.

With the new policies in place to deter illegal and irresponsible drinking, both students and the administration were eager to measure the effectiveness of the changes. However, it was difficult trying to measure the success of the initiative.

It is hard to compare statistics like number of violations,” said Howley. “There are many variables, like there being more police officers out working this year, so you can’t say, if there are more violations, is it because of them or other reasons.”

While difficult to precisely monitor, the consensus from the administration was that the number of violations were more or less on par with the previous year.

Among the most controversial of the new policies was the change to the three strikes ruling, in which parents would be notified after the first strike, instead of the second. The university’s reasons behind the change were to provide support to the students from their family, to reduce the chance of a second violation, and because several other Virginia colleges had already implemented this policy. Among the student body however, this change was viewed mostly in a negative light.

“The notification after the first strike doesn’t give people a second chance before parents are involved,” said junior Paul Gearing. “They say it is for support, but you should have a chance to fix your behaviors on your own, that’s what college is about.”

The revised university alcohol policy had the goal of the eventual reduction of underage and illegal violations concerning alcohol use both on and off-campus. While the effectiveness of this strategy would take several semesters to show, there was one clear message in these policy changes: it was time for students to take responsibility for their actions and accept the consequences concerning alcohol use.

“While I don’t agree with all the changes, I do think that it is a good and necessary thing for the school to try and tone down the out of control aspect of parties, like the Springfest riots,” said Gearing. “So I am glad they are making an effort to change that part of the school image.”
JMU worked with these three companies and Bolling's grant money to investigate different solutions to the current energy crisis. Display models of their wind turbines at the government specifically for educational purposes. The university is known not only by students, staff and faculty for "being green," but also by the state. The Commonwealth of Virginia received funding from the federal government specifically for educational energy projects. The university applied for a grant and impressed the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, who chose the recipient.

The grant funded the relocation of the small wind turbine on campus, replaced it with a newer wind turbine and also developed a small wind training and testing facility.

The Virginia Center for Wind Energy (VCWE) was located nearby the university campus. Dr. Jonathan Miles, a professor at the university and the director of the center, said the university involvement in wind energy began with a professor at the university and the director of the center, Dr. Jonathan Miles, developed a small wind training and testing facility.

The College of Integrated Science and Technology (ISAT) was not a traditional science program, which allowed university students to delve into the wind industry while still in their undergraduate program.

Kenny Howell was the wind analyst for VCWE. The 2009 graduate said the attendance of the State Wind Symposium doubled from 2008 to 2010.

The state government saw "the bigger picture," said Remi Luerssen, director of Outreach and Education at VCWE.

"We're going to be training more installers, we can bring manufacturing to this center. It's not just creating jobs, but creating jobs for JMU students when they get out," said Luerssen.

Because of this grant, we were able to "further educate people on how to make these projects effective and profitable," said Bolling.

Miles agreed and said around 35 to 40 students who have graduated in the past 12 years have gone into the industry, and have stayed there.

"There's no end to the opportunities," said Miles.

by Allison Killam (writer)
"I think it'll be helpful as a space for students to get a feel for the industry," said Luerssen. With a testing facility on campus, "students can do the things an installer would do, such as putting up a turbine."

Students also learned about testing the turbines, maintenance, and safety. Manufacturers planned to use this training space and students would have the ability to interact with them.

"If they have that experience, they'll get the pick of the best jobs," said Miles. Apart from the testing facility, Miles wanted to have a concrete lab, with different small turbines to show people how to take it down and how to put it back up.

The current turbine is 6 years old. It was taken down for students to observe and see the effects of age on wind turbines. These turbines are residential size, and were able to power a house or farm.

The VCWE looked toward the future for the community as well. People from all over the region were able to come and learn about the industry.

As for the community outreach part of the center, Luerssen was able to "provide them with the information so they can make an informed decision." Rockingham County had an ordinance that allowed small wind turbines, but was working on a large wind turbine ordinance.

"It doesn't mean there's going to be a new wind farm," explained Luerssen, "just that the county is open to developers."

John Bucci, a senior ISAT major, interned for the VCWE in the summer of 2010. He became interested in wind after taking Miles' Energy Sustainability course.

"You can just tell the wind industry is going to be the future," said Bucci. But many students are not aware of the university's advancement in the wind industry.

"Once it does go up," Bucci said, referring to the new wind turbine, "people will start noticing and they'll start asking questions.

While the location of the new wind turbine had yet to be determined, the VCWE hoped to break ground come spring.
Dressed in purple and gold, students pack the stands at the Homecoming game. While part of the stadium was renovated prior to the start of the football season, the student section remained untouched, forcing an even tighter squeeze for big games such as Homecoming.

**Photo by Annie Kraft**

**A new take on JMU spirit**

Though Homecoming was an integral part of every fall semester, it looked a little different this year.

“It was a big decision, but we moved a lot of things around this year,” said senior Student Spirit Coordinator Jenn Wilcox. “We changed things up and kicked off with Purple Out on Wednesday, as opposed to having it on Friday, which allowed people to get more excited earlier in the week.”

However, the Purple Out event wasn’t the only thing that received a major makeover.

“Another big decision was to not focus on a theme so much as on JMU spirit. It was definitely a change, but once students knew we were focusing on school spirit, they were really excited,” said Wilcox. “I think by emphasizing that essence of JMU, it added a really cool new facet to Homecoming.”

According to alumnus Grover Barrett, seeing these new changes is one of the best things about Homecoming.

“I love coming back and seeing how things have changed and evolved since I graduated,” said Barrett. Along with these new additions, there were several familiar events still happening around campus.
Prior to the Homecoming game kickoff, students learn how to lasso cattle at a tailgate. Students and alumni also grilled and played other games at the tailgates.

“I’ve been coming to football games for years, so it’s nice to have that tradition,” said Barrett. “And I enjoy it more now that my kids are students here.”

Of course, the game was a huge attraction for students as well. “The football game is one of the things that everyone remembers best. I love being part of that,” said Kristin Alexander, spirit committee co-chair. “I think the atmosphere at the games is something that you can’t find anywhere else.”

However, the game wasn’t the only familiar event that occurred during the week. “We had the pep rally and Sunset on the Quad, which are always really popular. And we had the football team and Mickey [Coach Matthews] all give speeches at the pep rally,” said Alexander. Of course, there were other, smaller highlights as well. “At the pep rally I saw the football team playing with little kids. I thought that was really cute,” said Alexander. “It’s awesome to see the school and the community coming together.”

Homecoming is not just for students. With his dog, Bonnie, at his side, senior Will Clark anxiously awaited the beginning of the Homecoming game.

Tables of food and drinks line the parking lots at Homecoming tailgates. Both students and alumni celebrated Homecoming by chowing down at tailgates before the game.

“Prior to the Homecoming game kickoff, students learn how to lasso cattle at a tailgate. Students and alumni also grilled and played other games at the tailgates.”

“Tables of food and drinks line the parking lots at Homecoming tailgates. Both students and alumni celebrated Homecoming by chowing down at tailgates before the game.”

“Homecoming is not just for students. With his dog, Bonnie, at his side, senior Will Clark anxiously awaited the beginning of the Homecoming game.”
Students poured through the Commons and a few meandered toward the closet. They walked in through the back, wrote a secret on one of the walls and came out feeling liberated as members of Madison Equality cheered for them.

"We have a spare wall in TDU waiting," said Cook with a smile.

She also said it's pretty rare to see a project like this on campus.

"I want to make a difference here and I can only imagine how helpful this is for someone else coming out," said senior Marjorie Cook, President of Madison Equality.

Another Madison Equality member, freshman Shelby Wiltz, agreed adding, "It's for everyone.

"It's important to keep everyone included," said Wiltz. "It's not a gay thing. You can come write in the closet and come relieve your secrets.

Madison Equality executive was required to hold office hours to help with students coming out at the university.

"We wait for people to come talk to us," said Cook. "It's 100 percent confidential."

The next day, freshman Dean Stubbs, a freshman, met with Dr. Mark Warner, senior vice president of student affairs, to represent Madison Equality and addressed issues on campus he would like to see changed.

Stubbs explained that the non-discrimination and non-harassment policy did not protect transgendersed students. The university's Student Handbook prohibited harassment referring to 2 person's gender and sexual orientation.

Patrick Lincoln, the coordinator of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) & Ally education program explained that the term used to disallow transgender discrimination was "gender expression" or "gender identity."

"When solely 'gender' is used there's space to interpret that solely legal gender identity, rather than their chosen gender identity," he said. "And expression is the key because it would cover not only identity, but behavior as well."

Stubbs also said he would have liked to see something on the roommate selection process, so that students can say whether they are comfortable with a roommate who has a different sexual orientation.

"It's far better to do that ahead of time than having to deal with a situation where you yank someone out of a room," said Stubbs.

He would have also liked to see some diversity training for all members of the Office of Residence Life, so that they are educated in handling situations when two students of different sexual orientations live together.

"Sometimes it's hard to make people care," said Stubbs. "The best thing you can do is try and if you reach a few people, you reach a few people.

Lastly, he said he would have liked if the university had a learning community for LGBT students. He believed "having a community for a sexual minority—people who face the same discrimination—that would be a safe place."

Despite all the changes he wanted to see, many students were happy with the university's handling.

"Judging by the events this week, it's clear JMU has an accepting and tolerant environment," said junior Daniel Richardson, who was also the LGBTQA caucus chair for the Virginia Young Democrats.

Warner said he was happy to meet with Stubbs and hear concerns because he encouraged an open door policy. By hearing concerns, he could learn how to make the university a more inclusive and welcoming environment.

He also believed that the inclusion of the term 'sexual orientation' in the university's non-discrimination and non-harassment policy protected the transgender community.
"If I don’t know when these instances happen, there’s nothing I can do," said Warner.

His priority was to make sure there is not a hostile environment at the university toward the LGBT community.

"I can’t mandate a change, I can’t change the culture that we have," Warner explained, but he wanted to make the campus as accepting as possible.

Look at how many students wear ‘Gay?...Fine by me’ T-shirts to show their support to the LGBT community," said Warner. Those students aren’t "doing this just to get a shirt, it’s because they authentically support it," he explained.

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010, Madison Equality and LGBT & Ally co-hosted a discussion panel. The panel was aimed at giving valuable insight to freshmen about being out on the university campus.

The panel opened by informing the audience that LGBTQJQA stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, questioning and allies. Each member of the panel introduced themselves and their sexual orientation.

Lei Robinson was a senior who described herself as lesbian-ish, and when asked to clarify, she said, “homoflexible,” and the audience laughed.

Jon Clouston is a junior, who described himself as transgender. Leigh Williams, another panelist, defined being transgender when "their biological sex does not match their gender identity.”

Lincoln, the coordinator of LGBT & Ally education program, defined his sexual orientation as queer, "a rejection of the male/female dichotomy,” he explained, "bisexual sounds kind of medical to me.”

Questions were submitted to the panel on note cards, through text messages, and through raised hands. The panelists were asked to describe how it felt to be out on campus. Robinson said Madison Equality had a hard time on campus.

“We got our flags torn down, we get our chalking destroyed on the Commons, behind your back discrimination definitely occurs,” she said.

Faculty who sport a triangle on their doors emphasize it’s a safe zone, which is a safe place for members of the LGBT community to come and talk. The Safe Zone website reported, “Currently there are over 300 participants consisting of faculty, staff and students” at the university.

Some in the audience asked what it meant to be an ally. Robinson considered someone as an ally if she tells a heterosexual friend she hooked up with a girl last night and her friend says, “OMG! Show me on Facebook!” The audience laughed.

The panel also discussed what marriage meant to them. Pablo Moulden, a sophomore, said he didn’t need the label of marriage with his partner, he just wanted “to be able to see my future husband in the hospital.”

Clouston disagreed, “I want it to be called marriage because if it’s called anything else, I’ll feel like a second class citizen and I don’t want to die alone in a hospital.”

The panel agreed on several changes they’d like to see the university make, including diversity training for all faculty and staff.

“The librarians are really cool about LGBT,” said Robinson of the “Gay?...Fine by us!” sign in the library on National Coming Out Day.
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

A Little Taste of Africa

by erica traveline [writer]

he university's location in the rich terrain of the Shenandoah Valley provided students with unique areas of exploration and fun outside of the Harrisonburg community.

Students were able to take day trips to various hot spots surrounding the university and found adventures unlike many had experienced before. From the trails of Shenandoah National Park, and the astounding views from Reddish Knob to the unlikely animals of Virginia's Safari Park, there were a variety of experiences awaiting the adventurist in everyone.

Giraffes, elephants and llamas weren't animals that very many university students expected to see upon their return to the mountainous terrain of western Virginia. Nevertheless, students who were willing to travel an hour outside of Harrisonburg were able to partake in a safari experience that was seemingly more fit for the geography of Africa.

The Virginia Safari Park, located in Natural Bridge, Va., was one of the many attractions students discovered outside of the university community.

Virginia Safari Park (VSP) was located about 70 miles south of Harrisonburg on Interstate 81. The park's website deemed it "the premier 'hands-on' animal encounter."

Inside the park, animals were free to roam, which created a unique feel in comparison to the typically caged exhibits in other parks and zoos.

"The place is really hands on. We actually got to go into the pen with all the llamas and pet them and run around with them. They also have an elephant there that you can actually ride on for only $5, and it's really cool," said sophomore Patricia Baker, who had visited the park during the fall semester.

The park opened in the spring of 2000 and the expansion of Safari Village, which began in 2005, created a 10-acre walk through the area for visitors.

There were many different displays and attractions within Safari Village that brought in visitors from all over the state. Inside the park, visitors found a Giraffe Feeding Station that they could climb up and feed the giraffes on their level. There was also a World of Birds Free Flight Aviary for sightseers to walk through and see a variety of birds from several continents all in free flight. In addition, there was a Tiger Territory, which housed the park's Bengal tigers, a Lorikeet Landing, a Petting Area, The Reptile Building and the park's newest addition—the Cheetah Exhibit.

Throughout the spring, summer and fall months, VSP was open from about 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and students visiting the park could expect to pay about $14 for admission. In addition, visitors had the choice to pay an extra $4 to take the Safari Wagon Ride, which provided a 60-minute guided tour through many of the exhibits.

Guests could also purchase buckets or handfuls of some of the park’s specialty grain to feed to the animals. For students who were looking for
a short day trip away from the university, the Virginia Safari Park provided them with a memorable adventure.

While VSP was one of the main new attractions for students this year, the classic adventures that have been attracting university students for years still remained popular with the student body.

Blue Hole was one of the traditional attractions that continued to attract students during the warmer months. Blue Hole, located in George Washington National Forest, was a swimming hole that allowed visitors to climb along its many over-sized rocks and ledges and plunge into the refreshing waters below. This popular swimming hole also provided students with picnic tables and ample area to socialize and bask in the sun with their friends.

Another popular and longstanding quest was the challenge of hiking the trails of Shenandoah National Park. Inside the park, students could explore a variety of trails, many of which led them to scenic waterfalls and immeasurable views of the Shenandoah Valley. Also, inside of George Washington National Park, Reddish Knob was a popular peak for students looking for adventure.

“The view from Reddish Knob is gorgeous and you can see so far,” said junior Dana Merwin.

Located, in the Shenandoah Mountains, the peak was one of the highest in Virginia and provided astonishing 360-degree views.

These wide variety of activities surrounding the Harrisonburg area provided students with multiple ways to engage in experiences and adventures outside of the university community.
Humor 101

a lesson on comedy from Michael Ian Black

by jennifer beers [writer]

Michael Ian Black prepares the audience for the punch line of his joke during his performance at Wilson Hall. Black cleverly centered his opening jokes on Harrisonburg and college life to catch the audience’s attention.

I love the...” series, his Stella Comedy troupe, and films like "Wet Hot American Summer." His popularity has grown over the years with his unique, dry and sarcastic sense of humor.

The university was lucky enough to see Black do his stand up routine, in which he opened the show by asking what there was to do in Harrisonburg. His routine included his airplane experience to the university, his first time skydiving and his honeymoon in Amsterdam.

"I’ve always been a really big fan of Michael Ian Black, so when I heard he was coming to the university I was so excited," said senior Samantha Dettmer. "I couldn’t stop laughing the whole time. I would definitely love to see his stand up again."

Black said the biggest difference between performing at a college, compared to other venues, was that he received college credit. He continued to say that he was working toward his Bachelor's degree, in which he planned to use to work at Starbucks.

Some of Black’s other accomplishments included TV shows such as the Comedy Central series “Stella” and “Michael and Michael have issues,” which featured Michael Showalter. In addition to TV, Black has also released “My Custom Van,” a collection of his essays.

His response to why he moved away from TV and toward books was, "I would say it’s just more diversity. It’s easier to get someone to publish a book than to put a television show on the air... when you are writing a television show, pretty much every day people are telling you that you are doing it wrong. That’s all they do."
Showing off for the audience, Comedian Michael Ian Black displays one of his many comical facial expressions. The audience responded positively throughout the night with continuous outbursts of laughter.

photo by Leslie Haase

Students begin to fill the auditorium up to 30 minutes before Comedian Michael Ian Black’s performance. Nearly every seat of Wilson Hall was filled with students eager to see the comedian.

photo by Leslie Haase

After warming up, Comedian Michael Ian Black begins to bring even more enthusiasm to his comedy routine. One of the highlights of the night was the constant interaction Black had between himself and the audience.

photo by Leslie Haase
Halloween traditions live on

by britni geer [writer]

From pumpkin carving to Fear Forest, Halloween proved to be a fun-filled tradition once again. With Halloween falling on Sunday, many students used the weekend prior to celebrate the holiday.

“A couple of weekends before Halloween, my roommates and I went to Fear Forest,” said junior Melissa Illidge. “I had heard that it was going to be really scary so I was hesitant to go but I had a great time and thought it was put on really well.”

While some who were looking for a scare went to haunted houses and saw scary movies like “Paranormal Activity 2,” others kept it mellow by visiting a pumpkin patch or corn maze.

“This year I was able to attend a pumpkin patch field trip with my elementary practicum class,” said junior Briton Clark. “It was a lot of fun and the students really enjoyed it. I liked going because it reminded me of when my family and I used to go to the pumpkin patch for Halloween when I was little.”

This year’s Halloween brought a little something extra to the weekend with a rally in Washington D.C. to “Restore Fear/Sanity,” hosted by Steven Colbert and John Stewart. Many students skipped out on traditional Halloween festivities to attend the event.

“A couple of my friends and I went to the rally and it was so crowded,” said junior Frances Corinne Riddelhof. “We were standing for about nine hours and we were so exhausted by the time we got home. It was definitely worth it though to get to see them in person.”

Costumes this year ranged from animals to food to movie characters. Costume parties and contests became a definite hit and students enjoyed showing off their costumes.

“My roommates and I dressed as the Spice Girls for Halloween,” said junior Chloe Mogel. “We went all out and were saying ‘girl power’ all night and singing parts from their songs. It was a lot of fun and we loved when people would recognize who we were.”

Whether it involved dressing in a ridiculous costume or having a small party on Halloween night, students loved going all out for the holiday.

“I love Halloween at JMU because people come up with the most creative ideas for costumes,” said sophomore Matt Wisniewski. “Like everything else at Madison, people have so much spirit here.”

From all the local Harrisonburg festivities like corn mazes and haunted houses, to Nightmare at UREC and costume parties, students partook in the Halloween events and remained in a festive spirit throughout the weekend.
Living rooms packed with dressed up partygoers were the place to be on Halloween night. From a banana to a chef, anyone, or anything, could be found during Halloween.

Dressed as a Star Wars character, junior Nick Doss dances around the DJ's turntable at a Halloween party. Students used Halloween parties to show off their creative costumes.

Junior Carter Wells poses in his "Reno 911!" costume. Adapting to another lifestyle was part of a complete Halloween costume.

Po (Visitor Conor Ham), Tinky Winky (Visitor Jose Almovador), Dipsey (Junior Austin Welch), and La La (Junior Mark Derham) and start their own party outside of an apartment complex. Some apartments were too crowded on Halloween night to stay inside.

Junior Carter Wells poses in his "Reno 911!" costume. Adapting to another lifestyle was part of a complete Halloween costume.
UPB Presents: B.o.B

Playboy Trey raps alongside B.o.B. to an enthused audience. Those lucky enough to be in one of the first 75 spots in line received floor spots and the chance to see the show up close.

B.o.B. begins his performance with "I See Ya." B.o.B. was the second performance of the three concerts in the Wilson Concert Series.

photo by Danielle Strickler
n Oct. 28, 2010 at 7 p.m., University Program Board (UPB) opened its doors for a B.o.B. concert featuring upcoming hip-hop artist Playboy Trey.

"The building's going to be shaking, it's going to be a blast," said Mitch Ramey, UPB public relations director, as he noted that the sound system was set up for an 8,000 person concert in a 1,245 seat venue.

The concert started off with a decent amount of energy from the crowd, and only escalated as Playboy Trey made his debut to the university in Wilson Hall.

Many students wondered why the concert series was held in Wilson Hall as opposed to the Convocation Center. Although B.o.B.'s schedule did not match up with the sporting events scheduled at the Convocation Center, UPB thought it was important to bring B.o.B. to the university. According to Ramey, this decision moved the entire concert series to Wilson Hall to accommodate the famous rap star.

Before he left the stage, Playboy Trey reminded everyone "never let anybody...tell you what you can or cannot be." The crowd went crazy, and Playboy Trey left a positive imprint on the university students.

During the transitional period between artists, the crowd took to clapping and chanting "B-o-B" to rile up their energy.

When the rapper finally made it to the stage the applause and screams escalated. There was so much noise packed into such a small venue.

"There's some great energy, great energy," said B.o.B. as he began his set list.

However, it was not enough for him to continue performing, so he told the crowd they needed to be even louder to get the band to keep playing. And of course, the crowd roared.

So much energy and fist-pumping went into the 60 minute show. After his last song, B.o.B. assured the crowd that he felt privileged to be there, and was grateful for each of his fans.

After the show, several students raved about how "amazing and unforgettable" the concert was.
On Oct. 13, 2010, the up and coming band Hotspur rocked out to a packed Taylor Down Under (TDU). The name, Hotspur, comes from a Shakespearean play, Henry IV, meaning a "hotheaded, impetuous person." The band lived up to its name that night, playing what they called "fancy rock," fancy being the combination of "fun" and "dancey" music.

TDU was full of students nodding their heads, and dancing to the music as Hotspur played original songs such as "Get Me Out Of Here" and "Heads or Tails."

The lead singer, Joe Mach, engaged the crowd by encouraging the audience to clap along to the beat and filling in the space in front of the stage. As the night went on, more and more people showed up to see this new, unknown band from Washington D.C.

The band was originally formed at the University of Maryland approximately four and a half years ago. Along the way it lost a drummer and a bassist, but it was able to find new bandmates to continue making music.

According to University Program Board member Mitch Ramey, the Washington Area Music Association-D.C. named Hotspur "New Artist of the Year" for its outstanding musical talents.

While they did cover a variety of songs ranging from The Killers to Katy Perry, the band also wrote its own. Hotspur consisted of a lead vocalist Mach, keyboardist Dave Trichter, bassist Dave Cooper, and drummer Scott Robinson.

All the members contributed to writing songs and were successful in booking shows at large venues such as Warped Tour. They played with major bands including Metro Station, Boys Like Girls and My Favorite Highway.

Before coming to the university, the band was a little nervous about how students would feel about its type of music. Despite the anxiety, it was confident the show would go well.

There was an immense amount of energy from the crowd, a sure sign students felt good about what they were hearing.

After the last song was played, the crowd began chanting "one more song!" Naturally, Hotspur pleased the fans and played a song that had the audience shouting "SOLD!" every time Mach sang "going once, going twice..."

When asked to state something different or unusual about the band, Mach mentioned that first of all, Robinson snores, and secondly a popular catchphrase they have adopted is "Drop It Like It's Hotspur."

The band was original. Ramey believed the band had potential to sign a record deal, but knew "the guys in Hotspur will always stay true to their local fan base."
Lead singer Joe Mach shuffles along to one of his band's songs. Mach used his guitar in some songs but on others went without it, preferring to just sing and dance. Photo by (Beth Principi)

Providing backup vocals, Evan Anderson also plays guitar in Hotspur. Anderson and two other band members accompanied Joe Mach in the D.C. native band. Photo by (Beth Principi)

Stressing his vocals, lead singer Joe Mach works to hit his notes. Hotspur visited the university after being named as D.C.'s Best Up and Coming band and touring with bands like My Favorite Highway and Metro Station. Photo by (Beth Principi)

Hotspur performs in TDU on a Wednesday night in front of a hand made banner created by JMU students for the band. The band later posted a picture holding the banner in front of their van on their Twitter account. Photo by (Beth Principi)
ard hats and construction cranes were a seemingly permanent addition to the university campus throughout the year. The university had plans to make expansions in a wide variety of areas in order to accommodate its growing student population. Major plans included breaking ground on the new University Park (UPark), taking over the former Rockingham Memorial Hospital (RMH) and unveiling plans for the new Biosciences Building.

According to the University Recreation Center (UREC) website, the beginning of construction on the corner of Port Republic Road and Neff Avenue marked the development of the university's first outdoor recreation facility, which was expected to be ready for use during the summer of 2012. Plans for the new facility revealed that the top section of the park was created for recreation facilities and the lower section for athletic facilities. UPark was developed for drop-in recreation, intramural and club sport programs, and team and leadership development programs.

“I’m really excited about the new complex and hope it will provide us with more opportunities to play,” said sophomore Courtney Camden, a member of an intramural soccer team.

Construction began on a gatehouse, which was to serve as an equipment check out area, an administrative office, a restroom and dressing room facility and a meeting room. Some of the main highlights included an open event lawn, four tennis courts, two sand volleyball courts, two basketball courts, a synthetic turf measuring 400 feet by 620 feet, a pavilion for picnics and outdoor performances, jogging and walking trails, a nine-hole disc golf course and high and low rope courses. The facility was designed to serve as an “outdoor” version of the University Recreation Center (UREC) and as a “backyard” for university students.

On the other side of campus, North Campus, plans were under way for the university takeover of the former Rockingham Memorial Hospital, which was moved to a new facility at Reservoir Street and Port Republic Road. With the purchase of the 15.8-acre campus for $50.6 million back in 2005, the university acquired nine buildings and a total of about 700 parking spaces for students, faculty and staff.

“I love the new parking deck because I can easily get to Carrier Library and the Quad,” said sophomore Emily Tibbens.

The Office of Public Affairs said there were different plans regarding how the university was to use each of the different buildings.

The West Tower was to be used as a “student success center” with offices for 16 different departments, a dining area, a health center and some classrooms. The university also planned to tear down the South Tower and create an outdoor area similar to the Quad. In addition, the Wine Price Building was to be renovated and house human resources, procurement and training offices, and a new Office of Admissions. Planning was still underway to determine how the university would use the other five buildings in the facility.

The east side of campus also received its own role in the scheduled university construction. Construction began on a new Biosciences building, located between the East Campus Library and the Physics and Chemistry Building. According to
Mark Gabriele, associate professor of biology, the facility was scheduled to be completed by May or midsummer 2012, and was expected to be ready for student use by fall 2012. This new location of the Biosciences building meant that all science buildings would be located on the east side of Interstate 81. In terms of faculty and classrooms, the building was not developed to be strictly for biology but was also created to house the College of Math and Science’s dean suite and pre-professional health advising resources.

Some of the major attractions of the new Biosciences building included a greenhouse, a green roof, specially designed laboratories, a state of the art microscopy suite with the most current technology and teaching space on the outside of the building. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system, which rates buildings' sustainability, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources and indoor environmental quality, gave the new Biosciences building a Silver certification.

The expansion that took place all over campus was inclusive of everything from sports to sciences to administrative work and was indicative of the university’s response to the growing and dynamic student body.

The renovation of Wayland Hall exhibited significant advances for the university in more ways than one. The reconstruction that took place marked the development of the university’s newest, and only, learning community for students interested in the arts. According to Winfield Hunt, director of Facilities Planning & Construction, the building was on track to become the university’s first building to be certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum building. Other buildings on campus have received LEED certification for their eco-friendly building strategies that focus on better environmental and health performance, but no other building on campus has received the Platinum status.

According to the Office of Residence Life, in order to accommodate the new arts learning community, the renovated Wayland Hall was equipped with state of the art performance, exhibition, practice and classroom space. Design plans for the renovation also included a tranquil outdoor area to allow a space for students to unwind, collaborate and study.

The building was redesigned to allow for members of the learning community to have group rehearsals, hold class meetings, and critique each other’s work without ever leaving their dorm. The new community was designed simply to appeal to those with a passion for the arts and didn’t require that residents have a major in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. The renovated Wayland Hall served those interested in all areas of the arts including theater, dance, music, art and art history, and all of the different students came together for one common class that was held in the hall.
marching to the Beat

University record label signs student indie-pop band

by jennifer beers (writer)

Indie-pop band March to the Arctic made their way around Harrisonburg, showing off their musical talent and collaboration. University students, junior Mike Sanzo, senior Arthur Sanzo and senior Christian Gehring made up the band that formed in 2006. Gehring played electric guitar, while the Sanzo brothers took turns between guitar and bass.

Their biggest obstacle was dealing with the original drummer not attending the university and being absent from local shows. The band made the best out of it by playing with drummers who were able to fill in the spot.

"It was hard to find a drummer that is reliable and can find the time, but that doesn't stop us from playing and getting shows," said Gehring.

In 2008, March to the Arctic won the "Battle of the Bands" that was hosted by the university's record label, 81 Records. The label signed them with their first CD, "My Mammoth, My Comrade." This helped them network around Harrisonburg, which led them to play in venues such as The Pub, Blue Nile and Clementine's.

"The energy is always great at their shows," said freshman Dan Rice. "I try to make it to all of their shows because I know they'll put on a great performance."

They also played at Spaghettifest for the second consecutive year, which the band mutually agreed was one of their most exciting shows.

"It was the first time we got to experience being on a main stage and hear all the levels," said Arthur. "The audience seemed to have a lot of fun and they got really involved in our songs."

The band drew its inspiration from a variety of artists such as Kings of Leon, Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Pixies and Bob Dylan. Each member's different style gave the band a unique, authentic quality. They collaborated their individual feel in their songs.

"The band definitely evolved musically and into something I think we all can appreciate," said Mike. "I think a big part of song writing is being able to tap into that deep subconscious part of you that you don't necessarily think about everyday but, it's there."
At Clementine’s, March to the Arctic plays before a large crowd. Senior brothers Arthur and junior Mike Sanzo and senior Christian Gehring started the band in 2006. 
photo courtesy {mike and arthur sanzo}

Playing barefoot at the Blue Nile, senior Christian Gehring and junior Mike Sanzo work to energize their audience. The band saw support from the university community at all of their shows. 
photo courtesy {mike and arthur sanzo}

Seniors Christian Gehring and Arthur Sanzo groove on their guitars at a show at Bourbon Street. The band toured around Harrisonburg playing at various local venues and hot spots. 
photo courtesy {mike and arthur sanzo}
A Form of Self Expression

body art carries meaningful messages

by sarah lockwood [writer]

In 2007, one-in-three 18-25 year old Americans had a tattoo, according to the Pew Research Center.

A walk through campus proved that the university was no exception to the growing trend. Ink was seen on the exposed stomachs of sunbathers on the Quad, flip-flopped feet on the bus and raised arms during classes. These quick glances, however, would capture the meaning behind each tattoo.

For senior Mackenzie Weaver, her tattoos were a reminder. Just after her freshman year, Weaver got her first tattoo above her left knee with the words "So it goes." This phrase is the refrain of her favorite book, Slaughterhouse-Five.

"Throughout the book it's repeated whenever someone dies or something ends," said Weaver. "So basically it's just like bad things happen. Move on and make the best of them because you don't really have control over anything, but the way you react to the world."

Weaver got a second tattoo at the beginning of her sophomore year. Located on her left rib cage, the tattoo featured eight stars in the shape of a heart like a constellation around the lowercase initials "db," a tribute to her favorite poet, Derrick Brown. This is the image she pictured when listening to his slam poetry lines, "the design in the stars is the same in our hearts, the rebuilt machinery of our hearts, so love."

She conceived both tattoo ideas around the same time and got them as a result of "coming to college and being on my own for the first time and being able to develop my own philosophy."

In this new setting, she felt free to read any book she wanted and explore the world. Getting the tattoos was a way to remind herself of what she had learned.

"You wake up every morning and you get dressed, see them and it kind of reminds you of the way you want to live your life," said Weaver.

She designed the tattoo on her knee to read upside down to others, so that she could read the phrase right side up when seated.

"I thought it was a funny location because every time you sit down to pee it's like 's--t happens' and I just thought it was ironic," said Weaver.

Dr. Richard Lawler, primatologist and anthropology professor, had tattoos with hidden meanings as well, however, these tattoos were marks of achievement. When he decided that he wanted to be a professor in college, Lawler "vowed to get a tattoo for each degree that was biology related."

First, he got a DNA molecule armband to mark his bachelor's degree. A tamarin monkey on his left forearm represented his master's and honored his undergraduate adviser who influenced his decision to become a primatologist. Finally, upon receiving his Ph.D., Lawler's graduate school adviser paid for the third tattoo as a gift. This one was on Lawler's right forearm, depicting the lemur species he studied every summer in Madagascar called Verreaux's Sifaka.

Both Weaver and Lawler felt that their ink was personal.

"It's not something that's for anyone else to see, it's not for anyone else's benefit," said Weaver.

While she understood the use of tattooing as a form of outward expression, this was not her reasoning.

"I just chose places that I felt were intimate," said...
Weaver. "This one is close to my heart, on my left ribs because that's a place that seems very central."

Tattoo location also had personal implications for Lawler, but rather than putting them in intimate locations, he chose places that he knew he would see. "I made a point to put them on the forearms, so when I see them, they sort of truly mark... these achievements. It's not necessarily to look cool—it's much more personal," said Lawler. "The average person doesn't necessarily know exactly what it is, and that's fine with me, because it's much more of a personal thing."

Both Weaver and Lawler put a lot of thought into their tattoos, but had differing opinions on spontaneous tattoos.

"You really have to make sure the tattoo you get is personally meaningful because it's the most permanent thing you're going to own," said Lawler. "It's going to be more permanent than your car, your house, whatever, so you better make darn sure you like it and don't get a tattoo drunk late one night and just pick one off the wall."

Weaver felt anyone should feel free to get any tattoo they want on their body, even if it's Tweety Bird on their butt. "Whatever floats your boat," said Weaver. "If you want to get wasted one night and get a tattoo of a naked woman on your armpit, that's your own prerogative. You have every right to do that and it's a funny story if nothing else and I'm always up for a funny story."

Meaningful or not, tattoos became much more mainstream with generation Y. Weaver suggested one explanation for the phenomenon. "I'd rather see people going out and getting tattoos than smoking cigarettes. It's not the worst thing you can do to yourself," she said. "Also, they're kind of addictive."

Anthropology professor Dr. Richard Lawler shows off his tattoos of his two favorite animals. The inspiration of his tattoos came from studying lemurs and his love of the animal.

photo by (sun shim)

Dr. Richard Lawler enthusiastically explains his tattoos to his students every semester. Lawler did not mind showing off his tattoos in class, as he often rolled up his shirtsleeves.

photo by (sun shim)
Students Build Lasting Relationships

students helping honduras spreads awareness

by britni geer (writer)

ith only five years under its belt, Students Helping Honduras (SHH) made a huge impact on its members and the less fortunate in Honduras. Unofficially beginning in 2005, Shin Fujiyama, the founder, traveled to Honduras to participate in volunteer work. After raising money for the children in Honduras, more groups volunteered and in 2007 the nonprofit organization SHH was created.

“I first joined SHH after an informational meeting about a year ago,” said junior Laura Smith. “I am really interested in nonprofit work, especially in Latin America. When I met the members and saw how much they were accomplishing, I realized that I could get involved now as well.”

The organization brought college students and communities of Honduran people together to build schools, homes and other infrastructures. The group provided the Honduran people with opportunities to overcome their extreme poverty conditions.

“Last November, I had the opportunity to go to Honduras

Junior Laura Smith and senior Rebecca Hazel stand by the road advertising Helping Honduras. Fliers and advertisements such as these pictured around campus helped Students Helping Honduras promote their cause.

photo by (danielle strickler)
on an ASB lottery,” said senior Ian Morrow. “In just a matter of a few years, our students have helped the people of Villa Soleada leave their old squatter-village where they didn’t own the land they were living in, and created 44 residential homes that are able to withstand hurricane forces. We’ve also built an educational center at the head of the village, where the people of the village can have computer access, something truly rare to the rural mountain region of Honduras.”

The chapter at the university participated in various fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for the people of Honduras. From their very own grilled cheese Fridays and poker tournaments, SHH worked to spread the word of their cause to other students through fundraising. “We have only been a formal organization on campus for two years,” said Morrow. “Last year we were able to raise $7,000 for SHH and this year we hope to raise even more.”

SHH continued to spread to college campuses across the east coast and nationwide raising awareness and charity for the people of Honduras. “Even though the organization is growing to encompass college students across the whole country, each person plays such an important role,” said Smith. “The staff made themselves so accessible and they really take the time to get to know everyone involved.”

Started by college students and continued by college students, the club brought together young people in order to help others in need. While SHH continued to make a large impact, challenges arose that nonprofit organizations normally encounter. “One challenge that exists is the patience you must have when dealing with a system that functions so differently, and definitely more slowly from ours in the United States,” said Smith. “When SHH and the families they are working with in Honduras decided to begin building a village that is now completed, it took a long time to secure the land title. Despite this, it was a necessary process to ensure that no one could take away what they had worked so hard to build together.”

With only 30 members, the students stayed passionate about their cause and continued to spread awareness to others. While helping those in need, the members gained an empowering and life-changing experience and hoped to spread the news to other students looking to make a difference.
Senioritis strikes again

seniors strive to overcome apathy

by mary claire jones [writer]

The desk of senior Jessica Kiefer looked like it could belong to any college student. Books open, papers strewn everywhere, highlighter clenched between her teeth... and her Facebook page up on her computer.

Like most seniors, Kiefer had a full schedule. But that didn't mean that school was the only thing on her mind.

Senioritis is defined by Urban Dictionary as "a virus which seems to affect mainly second semester seniors... this virus can be deadly to one's grades, as the carrier becomes totally apathetic about their grades, classes, homework etc."

These symptoms seemed to have struck Kiefer a little bit early.

"A lot of times, she'd come home after a long day of classes and ask me if I thought it was too late to change her major. I was never sure if she was kidding," said Kiefer's roommate, senior Kristin Alexander.

"It's definitely hard to stay motivated," said Kiefer. "I just want to enjoy senior year—I have no incentive [to do work] whatsoever. I don't know if the classes are harder, or if I just don't have any motivation. Or maybe it's just a combination of the two."

Alexander was quick to add her agreement, and offer some interesting insight.

"I definitely blame her... I think everyone is starting to feel like that," said Alexander. "I think the phrase 'a senior without senioritis' is mutually exclusive."

And on top of that lack of motivation, there was another task that loomed over seniors' heads.

"It's hard because we have to look for jobs along with our regular schoolwork. There's a lot more for us to be thinking about than classes," said Kiefer.

But that didn't mean that Kiefer wasn't savoring her senior experience.

"It's definitely more fun because I know a lot more people than I did my first few years," said Kiefer. "And I'm trying to enjoy myself because I know it's almost over.

Senioritis is typically defined as a phenomenon in which seniors strive to overcome apathy. However, it's important to note that while these symptoms can be common among seniors, they are not exclusive to them and can affect students at any stage of their academic career. The key is to recognize these signs and take steps to overcome them. There are strategies to help seniors stay motivated and engaged, such as setting clear goals, finding a support system, and maintaining a healthy work-life balance. By doing so, seniors can successfully navigate their senior year and make the most of their final year before graduation.
In their off-campus apartment, Seniors Rachel Decolli and Christy McGhee display a lazy, senioritis attitude. With the end of college in sight, sleep and relaxation became even more enticing than usual.  

photo by {annie kraft}

Fifth year Senior Christy McGhee diligently takes notes in her off-campus residence. Seniors who stayed for another year of classes were jokingly said to be taking their "victory lap."  

photo by (annie kraft)

JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH

by mary claire jones [writer]

They said college should be the best four years of your life. But for some, it was more than that—literally. Laura Burns was one of the university's many fifth-year seniors.

"I haven't really noticed a huge difference except for that I'm older than everybody. But even that isn't a huge deal," said Burns.

A product of studying abroad and multiple changes in majors, Burns' decision to stay an extra year was nothing but rewarding.

"I really like JMU, and... I feel like I've had time to really enjoy my classes. I feel like a lot of people are rushing to get out of college in four years, and I've had the opportunity to take time and enjoy my experience here," said Burns.

photo by mary claire jones

Seniors Jessica Kiefer and Will Clark take a break from studying and play a game of Guess Who. Seniors who faced the pressures of finding a job and graduation needed healthy stress relievers.  

photo by {annie kraft}
exhibitions showcase diverse talents

gallery talks

by kaleigh somers [writer]

[never dreamed] about being in a gallery, because that's not really something realistic for graphic design," said senior Cheryl Tiefel.

From Oct. 4 to 16, however, Tiefel and senior Kaidyn DiGangi had the opportunity to showcase a portion of their work in the ArtWorks gallery on Grace Street.

Tiefel appreciated being able to show her classmates and professors that she was a jack-of-all-trades, capable of working in mediums outside of graphic design.

Tiefel and DiGangi both had to sign up for an appointment with a student director to show them pieces of artwork, who then decided which applicants showcased artwork in the galleries, grouping those people into two-week exhibition periods. Normally, about four people showcased work during each exhibition. Three undergraduate students and two graduate students featured artwork during the exhibition.

"You're not trying to just put up everything you have," said DiGangi. "You kind of want to have a theme to your show."

Her theme was consumption, as she featured mixed media sculptures of furry characters eating things. Overall, DiGangi tends to focus on ironic humor.

"It's supposed to look a little creepy, a little weird, but it's laughable," said DiGangi. She described it as "something you're really not supposed to laugh at, but you kind of do."

As a child, DiGangi had a pet rabbit that she hated. Later, she noticed that she frequently used rabbits as her subjects. She also grew up watching Tim Burton films, which she believed influenced her interest in ironic humor.

Like DiGangi, Tiefel pulled her influences from the past, focusing on the theme of memories. Her gallery pieces were photographs from two books she put together with her brother, Chris, an English major, who graduated from Kutztown University in Pennsylvania in 2007. For the first book, her brother wrote poetry, which was accompanied by Tiefel's photographs.

"It was a way of solidifying these things that you just don't want to lose, these lucid memories," said Tiefel.

Their second book contained patents their father, a metallurgical engineer, had developed. Tiefel said she and her brother played with the book's layout.

At the ArtWorks studio, junior Danielle Strickler looks at a painting of a shark.

Strickler and other students were welcome to visit the studio to see the works.

photo by Ashley Creech
Even though Tiefel showcased photography and DiGangi showcased mixed media sculptures, both concentrated on graphic design in college. Both became seriously interested in art in high school, but weren’t sure where to focus their concentration in college.

Tiefel said she had a dark room under the stairs in her basement where she and her brother developed photographs together. She took three photography classes in high school, but was concerned her photography portfolio wouldn’t be strong enough to do it for a living, so she decided to take graphic design to pair it with photography.

DiGangi took AP art her senior year of high school, where she developed a very thick-lined style.

“I’ve always been good with computers, and I thought it was a good way of incorporating art and technology,” said DiGangi.

DiGangi’s mother freelanced as a graphic designer, and used to work for a graphic design firm when everything was still laid out by hand. Originally from San Francisco, DiGangi wanted to return to her roots and work at a graphic design firm that serviced a variety of different clients, because she liked the concept of logo design.

DiGangi said she would love to showcase her graphic design work, but didn’t plan on having another show at the university.

“I think it’s good to leave it open to new artists who haven’t had a show yet and would like to apply for one,” DiGangi said.

Tiefel wanted to incorporate her love of photography in her career after graduation, hopefully working with photo editing and layout.
Quiet or loud? Neat or messy? Party or study? These are some of the questions incoming freshmen asked themselves when it came to picking a roommate, someone they had to spend an entire year with, sharing a confined space.

Few university students could say they lived with their freshman roommate all four years. Thinking back, four students discussed why they were so compatible all these years.

Blair Parks and Nikki Headley went to the same high school. They were in the same circle of friends, but just acquaintances themselves. Parks’ mother wouldn’t let her room with anyone she knew very well, and Headley didn’t want a random roommate. So they chose each other.

Wei Lin and Tyler Goggin also chose each other as roommates. The two weren’t placed in the same room freshman year. They lived in the same dorm, and after a student moved out of Goggin’s suite, Lin moved in.

Parks and Headley’s biggest problems freshman year weren’t the average roommate problems like taking out the trash or an uneven sleep schedule. Their problem was fish.

This fish was a present from Headley to Parks, since Parks had been so upset over the loss of Locksley. When Parks was cleaning the water bowl, the fish managed to go down the sink drain and was never seen again.

“We got a fish—he had a rough life,” said Headley. “He had one fin, so he couldn’t swim to the top, and he starved to death,” said Parks.

This fish was a present from Headley to Parks, since Parks had been so upset over the loss of Locksley. When Parks was cleaning the water bowl, the fish managed to go down the sink drain and was never seen again.

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Headley came home one day during the second semester of freshman year and Parks said, “I have to tell you something, don’t get mad.”

“We got a fish—he had a rough life,” said Headley.

The two girls lived on the eighth floor of Eagle Hall. Locksley, the fish, lived until winter break and went home with Parks. Unfortunately, he didn’t agree with the new home and died.

Parks wanted Locksley to have a funeral at the university, so her father recommended she freeze him until returning to school. “I wanted to do a Viking funeral…but you can’t set ice on fire,” said Parks while Headley shook her head.

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As freshmen, sophomores Mike Beck and Mike Williams, along with their other roommates, try to start a band using Rock Band. The pair moved to Fox Hill their sophomore year.

Senior roommates Nikki Headley and Blair Parks frequently go out together. The pair went to high school together and became roommates their freshman year.

Goggin and Lin never shared any pets, but they did share video games, movies and meals. The two were in the same circle of friends and three years later, they were still hanging out with the same friends and playing video games together. Only through their last three years of college, they progressed to sharing food and toilet paper.

The two sometimes argued, but never over anything serious. "Occasionally, I'll yell at him for leaving stuff around," said Goggin, as he pointed to a plastic trash bag on the couch.

"It's not mine!" yelled Lin.

"It's always his," said Goggin as he rolled his eyes.

Headley, after having lived with Parks for four years, said with a smile, "Sometimes I feel like we're an old married couple."

"At this point we don't fight because if we have something to say, we just say it," explained Parks, who thought it was amazing the two had never really argued.

"We don't share," said Parks of being in the same living area, "that might help."

Lin and Goggin don't argue either, at least not seriously. "We argue, but it's for fun," said Lin.

They got along really well because they had similar personalities.

"We're both really sarcastic people," said Lin, "I guess it's because I can deal with him."

"Same goes for you pal," said Goggin with a smile.

"Yeah, no problem, love you," said Lin.

The one thing they had argued about was over their Halloween costumes. Goggin was planning on being John Lennon and pointed to Lin and said, "I'm trying to make him my Yoko Ono!"

While there was clearly love between Goggin and Lin, Headley and Parks had one difference that caused Parks to take drastic action.

"Blair's a neat freak, and I'm not like dirty, but I went out of town one weekend, and I came back and she was cleaning my stuff," said Headley of their sophomore year together in Chappelear Hall.

Parks thought Headley had become much cleaner since living with her, she explained with a smile.

"I realized how much I enjoyed having Nikki as a roommate when I studied abroad," said Parks.

It was obvious that these roommates had found someone they could live in harmony with, someone to be more than just a roommate, someone to be a friend.
Up 'til Dawn gets a fresh start with new relationships

by Lisa Mees

Up 'til Dawn filled the empty Godwin gym with students ready to give up their Friday night. The event raised money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, but many were there as a sign of support for their friends—the new leaders of Up 'til Dawn.

Up 'til Dawn was already its own organization, but it had been years since it had put on the event that held its name. Bringing it back was part of a fresh start.

When the St. Jude headquarters saw that the chapter was not living up to its name, they came in and hand-picked a new executive board, an ordeal that many of the students involved called a "long story."

Senior and Executive Director Erica Nichols was approached to be part of the new executive board at the beginning of the semester along with five other leaders on campus.

"In St. Jude's eyes, a lot of campuses do [Up 'til Dawn] and they wanted JMU to be connected with that," said Nichols.

While the decision was controversial, Nichols said she would have considered herself a fool to walk away from the opportunity.

After the start of the new executive board, they started building the event from scratch and worked with St. Jude to structure it.

"It was cool to pick up something and build it brand new," said Nichols.

The purpose of the event was for volunteers to bring in addresses so they could send donation letters that would be put directly toward the hospital's research. Though the letter writing was technically supposed to last until dawn, it went until midnight due to lack of security from the university.

Even without those six hours, there were over 1,300 letters written and addressed. Most of the volunteers came from the executive board's friends in their existing organizations. Alpha Sigma Tau sisters junior Cameron Kelton, senior Kayla Albert...
Attendees of Up 'til Dawn's letter writing extravaganza is comprised of sororities and fraternities, along with other students. Brothers of Alpha Tau Omega and sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau were two Greek affiliated organizations that supported the event. 

photo by (ashley creech)

Groups of students meet for six hours to earn donations for St. Jude. Up 'til Dawn had 145 members. 

photo by (ashley creech)

and junior Kimberly Buckingham said they were all there to support their sister, senior Elizabeth Schwieder, Up 'til Dawn's prize committee chair. Their team alone wrote 480 letters.

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) already supported cancer research with their involvement in Relay for Life and saw Up 'til Dawn as another opportunity to help raise more awareness.

“We'll do whatever we can to help with the fight,” ATO junior Taylor Ferguson said.

Up 'til Dawn was just the kick off for the organization's new era, and plans for a dinner and another letter writing event were already in the works for the spring. The organization was proud to say the heart of the organization was back.

“I was so proud to see the amount of people who came out and gave up their Friday night,” said Nichols. “It really made me see the selfless side of our community and that people really do step outside of themselves every once in a while.”
INDEPENDENT INVESTMENT

students presented with the challenge to fund their education

by sarah lockwood (writer)

College is tough. It was even tougher if you were paying for it. Students who had to pay for their own education handled this responsibility in many different ways.

Junior Isabel Massa received scholarship money freshman year, a grant junior year and worked part-time at Buffalo Wild Wings. She also had student loans.

Junior Dan Dziuba took a different route. He attended community college for two years and learned to invest his money.

"I get [financial] aid because of my mother's income and I use the grants and loans, but then it doesn't cover everything," said Dziuba.

Although he has worked on and off, a lot of Dziuba's spending money comes from invested funds.

Paying for college put added pressure on both students.

"It puts a big amount of stress on you," said Dziuba. "There are so many people wanting things; they're pulling you in all different directions. You got classes pulling you one way, friends pulling you another, work."

Massa was diagnosed with panic anxiety disorder last year. She sees a direct correlation with the medical condition and the weight of having to pay for her education.

“I never had stress problems, never had anxiety problems, until I started working and going to school at the same time," Massa said.

Financing their education also put a strain on relationships in both Dziuba and Massa's lives.

“My mom and I aren't as close as much because there's always tension about money," said Massa.

Dziuba agreed.

“My family doesn't understand why for Christmas, I ask for ten business books instead of [an] Xbox or something," Dziuba said.

Sometimes they felt isolated from their friends. Even though Massa's roommates paid for some of their necessities, “their parents are always there,” she said. “I have no one else. Everything is on me. So I do kind of resent them because they have an emergency back up in case they're low on money. Me, I just get screwed.”

Despite the pressure and relationship tension created by paying for college, Dziuba and Massa both saw some positive results as well.

“I definitely know more about taxes and loans than any other person that's my age," said Massa. “I like paying for my own stuff.”

Dziuba also appreciated the lesson about independence.

“You have to be very independent and you can’t count on people because no one’s going to give you money," said Dziuba.
The pressure is on for junior Dan Dziuba, who pays his own tuition. Dziuba had deep feelings about his own personal wealth, such as saving money and constantly educating himself on how to invest properly.

Although he said he was not strong in science, writing or math, this accounting major felt that “when it comes to business, it just clicks... It has all paid off.”

Dziuba also felt that he had learned from his and others’ mistakes.

“When I got my first credit card, I knew my dad sucked at it,” said Dziuba. “He never paid anything off... and I’ve never paid credit card interest... I learned from my parents’ mistakes, how bad they were at money management.”

He said he also tried to learn from every mistake he made in the stock market.

“It’s really hard,” said Dziuba.

Despite their struggles, they had big plans.

“So far the plan is I’m going to join the military after I graduate, so it will pay for my education,” said Massa.

She planned to take the GREs, apply for grad school and look into the Air Force at the same time to keep her options open. The Air Force offered to pay for her education,” said Massa.

“Everyone says they want to make a lot of money, but I think the majority of students that pay their way through college... when [they] get out of school [they’re] really going to appreciate the hard work.”

Working off campus is a choice junior Isabel Massa made for paying her own tuition. Off-campus jobs were normally easier to come by, but tough economic times caused a decrease in the availability of these jobs.

“Sometimes Massa resented having to pay for college.

“It’s really hard,” said Massa. “A lot of people don’t see how hard it is to pay loans. There’s always some bill that’s due, something I have to pay, something that I owe [my mom] or something that I owe the bank.”

Although Dziuba also felt similar resentment occasionally, he was grateful for the obstacle because it made him stronger.

“Right now, I think I’m pretty proud of myself,” said Dziuba. “I think in the end, I’ll feel more appreciative of my degree... I think the majority of students that pay their way through college... when [they] get out of school [they’re] really going to appreciate the hard work.”
bathrooms offer comfort for those at the university
behind closed doors

by matthew johnson [writer]

"I look for cleanliness," said senior Dominic Lombardo. "And a toilet seat located near a heating vent so the seat is warmed." Other criteria included no grody smells, wet surfaces or doors that required a pull to open. One reason Jones liked the Taylor restrooms was because of the ample amount of toilet paper in every stall—a quality she said not every bathroom on campus could claim. Of course, for every favorite bathroom, there was always that one stall—a quality she said not every bathroom on campus could claim.

"It's always wet, always smells weird, there's paper towels on the floor, it's creepy," said Jones. "It's like walking onto a set where 'Saw' was filmed."

Lombardo disagreed with Jones, saying his favorite restroom on campus was on the third floor of Carrier Library.

"I just like to take a good book in there and read," said Lombardo. "There's never anyone in there because they're too busy studying."

For Lombardo, the worst bathroom on campus was located below many students' favorite dining option—D-hall.

"The bathroom below D-hall, that bathroom is terrible," said Lombardo. "It smells and there's always a wet floor, and the paper towel dispenser is always broken."

Although Jones wouldn't use the Carrier Library bathrooms, she did have a restroom in Taylor, which had a very special place in her heart.

"There's never anyone in there because they're too busy studying." Lombardo disagreed with Jones, saying his favorite restroom on campus was on the third floor of Carrier Library.

"I don't know if everyone should have a favorite bathroom, but it's nice to have one," said Jones. "It's comforting."

Lombardo slightly disagreed, saying he felt everyone should have a favorite restroom on campus.

"Yes [students should have a favorite bathroom], because the bond I've made with my bathroom has helped me get through the last four years of college," said Lombardo.

Regardless of where or if you had a favorite bathroom on campus, using one was something everyone on campus had in common.

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The new Forbes Center bathrooms exemplify restrooms on campus that students do not fear visiting. With rows of sinks and always-clean toilets, the performing arts bathrooms did not dissuade theatergoers from taking advantage of the restrooms during intermissions.

During breaks between classes, students rush to their favorite bathroom spots such as Taylor, the third floor of Carrier or the new performing arts center. One less desirable bathroom included bathroom before the D-hall stairwell.

photo by (sun shim)
Ulvis Wells, a member of the university's men's basketball team, has been playing basketball since the fourth grade. In seventh grade, Wells became more serious about playing basketball and began a pregame routine that he continued to use.

On the day of a game, Wells would head to the gym with the rest of the basketball team for some last-minute practicing. By running through plays, and warming up, the team was able to get mentally prepared for the game. After an hour or so of rest, the team would eat dinner and rest some more before heading off to the gym for the game. Wells also said a little prayer before heading onto the court in addition to listening to music, as part of the ritual.

"I know a lot of people don't pray before they go out," said Wells. "But I know a lot of basketball players listen to music before the game, so that's not really different."

For Wells, the act of praying before playing a basketball game allowed him to become more focused during the game.

"The prayer focuses me, gets me locking into the basketball game," said Wells, "but when I listen to my music I start getting hyped. The music goes in me and I just go with the beat."

Wells typically listens to Lil Wayne or any song with an upbeat tempo in order to get amped up for the game.

Senior Rob Jennings chars a cork to rub the ash under his eyes before a club baseball game. The club players agreed that this method worked better to shield off the sun because it didn't run when sweating.

photo by {gareth hermann}
Men's soccer player Paul Wyatt also had his own pregame habits.

"I always put on my right boot and shin pad before my left," said Wyatt. "It's something that I have always done for some reason."

Wyatt also listened to music for a half hour before game time, typically something with an upbeat rhythm. The soccer team as a whole also had their own song they played before each game. Before every game, the song "Show Me Love" by Steve Angelo played right before kick off.

"The song brings us all together and reminds us of a lot of good times on and off the field," said Wyatt.

Carly Gibson, a swimmer, associates one of her pregame rituals with a personal success story.

"I had just swam in a meet that finally pulled me out of a three year slump and I was wearing earrings," said Gibson. "I think I thought if I wear earrings at every meet from here on out, I'll be able to swim fast again."

Gibson, who has been swimming her entire life, also took inspiration for her routine from her parents. Growing up, before each meet, Gibson's mother would make her spaghetti in order for her to load up on carbohydrates. In addition, as a child, her father would play "Free Bird" in order to get pumped up for a meet.

"Whenever I hear it I still get a little nervous feeling in my stomach, even if I'm not about to race," said Gibson.

As a result of following a pregame routine, most athletes found that their game performance improved.
Everyone agrees that their first radio show is always just a mess,” said senior Claire Kita. “I was nervous the first time, because all of Harrisonburg and JMU could be listening to you. You’re on the air for everyone to hear.”

Kita was the general manager for the university’s student-run radio station, WXJM 88.7, located next to CVS Pharmacy on Cantrell Ave. The station was founded in 1990 and gave students a chance to escape homework and share their love of music with the rest of the community.

“It’s a great way to just get away from your studies and do something you enjoy—listening to music. Everyone here just loves music,” said Kita.

The station’s most popular music style was called prog, a broader style that encompassed alternative music. Along with that, other shows played anything from loud rock to Americana to jazz music. Musical styles were organized in a grid format, with two-hour time slots for each style type.

Members had the opportunity to sign up for shows that usually featured music matching their time slot’s style. Prior to that, they had to attend a DJ training session by the student-run DJ board—juniors Lindsay Carlin, Rob Clagett and sophomore Marisa Cagnoli.

During the hour-long session, trainees reviewed the DJ manual and toured the studio and music library. After that, they had to sit in on a show and learn how everything operated before signing a contract.

Disc jockeys were encouraged to play whatever type of music they wanted, as long as it fit the station’s mission statement: “underrepresented and independent musicians.”

Besides broadcasting music, students had to incorporate PSAs, announcements and weather forecasts at specified times.
during their shows.

Kita's show was entitled "Over the Clam Waves." Another show was called "Undead Air." Not all students ended up naming their shows. From 6 to 2 a.m. every day, the station broadcasted between 50 and 60 individual shows, with half the DJs teaming up for shows.

"The basis of the organization is sitting in a room by yourself, talking to yourself, so its good to get everyone together to mingle," said Kita.

Outside of the station, members went on a camping trip, and held a semi-formal, potlucks and movie nights. In October, a group of students went to New York City for an annual festival hosted by the College Music Journal.

The station not only played a variety of musical styles, but also had several talk shows. Kita said members had a comedy show and sports talk show, as well as a movie show hosted by several Cinemuse film club members.

"We definitely try to make it a point to offer something to every sort of taste of music," said Kita.
The university offered a variety of academic programs, so it was no wonder it provided several different outlets for students to study. With a variety of majors, students practiced various study habits to meet their particular needs.

In each building on campus, there were tables and couches used primarily for students to study at their convenience. In each dorm, there were study lounges with desks and TV lounges with tables and couches for group study sessions. In many of the academic buildings, there were study lounges and group study rooms, in addition to tables and couches.

“I like to study in my dorm’s study lounge because I know everyone there,” said sophomore Laura Hardiman. Having some distractions proved to be helpful for some students while studying.

In addition to the study areas in various academic buildings, the university had two main libraries, Carrier Library and East Campus Library, which were popular places to study on campus. Not only did both libraries have numerous resources, but they also had tables for group study, quiet rooms and 24-hour rooms.

Each library also had coffee shops to feed every college kids’ caffeine addiction.

“I get the least distracted when studying in the library,” said graduate student Sarah Danaher, “but I also enjoy studying on the Quad.”

Many students enjoyed studying outdoors on campus because the fresh air helped to keep them focused.

Taylor Down Under was also a popular place to study. It had the perfect balance of tables and couches, with just the right amount of background noise for those people who felt the libraries were just too quiet. Like the libraries, TDU also had a coffee shop inside.

“I usually choose to study in my room or outdoors in the arboretum if it’s nice,” said sophomore Samantha Wilkins. With all these great resources, it should be obvious that students took full advantage of them. Many students found the best way to study was spending a little time in the library every week, instead of just cramming for tests as they came along. Other students have found that using flashcards and continuously testing themselves helped them retain information.

However, students chose to study; the university offered endless options to fit their habits.

Surrounding herself with comfy blankets and a warm foot rest (her dog), Senior Caitlin Streett studies with classmates Matt Smith and Jessica Kiefer. Students who could fight the urge to sleep opted for beds and comfortable settings to do their studying and homework. photo by Annie Kraft
Decked in New Year’s Eve glasses, senior Caitlin Streett casually tests fellow senior Jessica Kiefer in an off-campus apartment. Yet another study technique involved quizzing friends about the test material before exam day.

Senior Rachel DeColli uses her apartment desk while taking extensive notes before her exam. For those students who disliked the idea of putting pen to paper, reading over class notes or book chapters multiple times before an exam provided a different study approach.

In her apartment bedroom, Junior Zuleika Lim spreads out her notes and intently studies for an upcoming exam. While some students preferred to study in the library or TDU lounge, others found comfort in more familiar environments.
Ask almost anyone: working on a Friday or Saturday night is a college student's worst nightmare. But for members of SafeRides, weekends were their time to shine.

Working Friday and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., SafeRides offered free rides home for students of the university in an effort to prevent drunk driving. According to some members, that goal was what attracted them to the organization in the first place.

“I remember when I was a sophomore I was looking for a way to get involved, but I wanted to feel like I was helping too,” said senior Molly Rossberg.

Junior Lindsay Wall agreed that SafeRides' positive environment was what attracted her to the organization.

“It's a really good community of people... it's a family atmosphere and it was really easy to get to know people,” said Wall.

SafeRides, an established non-profit organization, had recently hit a milestone of 20,000 rides given. While they were overjoyed with their accomplishment, they were ready to start looking toward the future.

“We’re working to expand the organization,” said Rossberg. “We currently run four cars—usually one van and three four-doors—every weekend, but we want to bump it up to five eventually.”

Despite the seemingly simple nature of the organization, SafeRides almost didn’t happen.

“It took a long time for us to get established,” said Rossberg. “We’re a non-profit organization and it took a while for us to make that happen.”

Because of the non-profit status of SafeRides, the organization took on local sponsors, such as Southview Apartments, Stonegate Apartments and Domino’s Pizza.

“(Funding is) another thing we’re working on,” said Rossberg. “We rent cars from Enterprise every weekend, which is about $900 per weekend, and we run on donations and sponsors.”

However, SafeRides was more concerned with other things besides money.

“It’s a really good mission,” said Wall. “I like having the opportunity to give back to Harrisonburg and to the JMU community.”
Andrew Frank, senior Candice Coleman, Molly Rossberg and sophomore Liz Klemt wear their SafeRides gear during Friday and Saturday nights. The service operated from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. photo by (gareth hermann)

SafeRides members await their assignments for the evening. Members could be called dispatchers or drivers, but only if they were older than 21. photo by (ashley creech)

Senior Patty Caltabiano looks on as important issues are discussed during a SafeRides meeting. The organization was funded by donations and local sponsorships. photo by (ashley creech)
hen students remembered what they were thankful for, the list typically consisted of family and friends. While many students celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday with their families over the break, other students took Thanksgiving into their own hands by celebrating with friends at school.

“My roommates and I went to a Thanksgiving dinner at our friends’ apartment,” said junior Lindsey Kaine. “We decided to stick to bringing simple foods with us like salad, crescent rolls, applesauce and cookies.”

With students trying out their own cooking abilities, mishaps in the kitchen occurred throughout dinner preparations. From burning cookies to forgetting the turkey, students found ways to compensate for their lack of cooking and baking abilities.
“My roommates and I had a Thanksgiving dinner at our apartment in order to bring all of our friends together before we left for break,” said junior Kayla Ensboll. “We went to the store the night before to buy the turkey and we realized that none of us would be home long enough to cook the turkey the next day. We didn’t want to leave the oven on without anyone home so as an alternative we served rotisserie chicken. We also had mashed potatoes in a bag that we microwaved to serve with it.”

Along with individually planned feasts, organizations around campus arranged dinners for its members and the community. The Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) held its annual interfaith Thanksgiving dinner catered by D-Hall.

“We had about 80 people show up for the dinner, representing groups like the Lutheran and Episcopal campus ministries,” said junior Patrick Dunford. “The dinner was traditional for the most part, but catered by D-Hall so it was delicious. What made it unique was the opportunity to bring together those of faith on our campus to build friendship and unity.”

While enjoying their meals and giving thanks, students remembered to be grateful for all they had and to give back to the less fortunate. Canned food drives occurred throughout the weeks before Thanksgiving in order to provide others with Thanksgiving meals.

“After the feast at CCM, the leftover food went to the OCP (Our Community Place) in downtown Harrisonburg,” said junior Elizabeth Ortiz. “The OCP is a little place downtown that serves three hot meals a day for free for anyone who wants to partake. All of the leftovers from the dinner went there to give others a hot Thanksgiving meal as well.”

While celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday, students came together to plan their own feasts, give back to the community, and appreciate the friendships made during their time here at the university.
After two years of driving the Late Night Route, graduating and moving away, Westley Kern returned to the university every other weekend to drive what was affectionately called the "drunk bus."

While some students would never want the responsibility of dealing with intoxicated people and all the other calamities associated with drinking, Kern loved his job.

"Drivers that are out there, week to week, want to be there," he explained. Kern wasn't interested in drinking as a student, but he appreciated the party scene, the aspects of going out and having fun.

When driving on a weekend night, "no one is down about their 8 a.m. [class], everyone's out there to have a good time," he said.

In 2006, Kern saw a student driving a bus around campus. He thought it would be a cool job, applied, and got a phone call the next day.

"I didn't know how to read a bus schedule," said Kern. And he didn't learn until he became a driver. Before then, he said he'd probably ridden the bus three times.

On Friday night, Kern's bus route started at 7 p.m. The drivers called it "the calm before the storm." Once 10 p.m. arrived, things got busy, and they usually didn't calm down until after the buses stopped running.

"There are a lot of energetic people taking the buses. Happy drunks, angry drunks and sober people just trying to get home," Kern explained. "For the most part, drunks are friendlier than sober people," said Kern with a laugh.

Kern was most well known by students as "Afro Kid." On weekend evenings, Kern's hair transformed from gelled flat to brushed out afro. Riders complimented him on his hair every night, amazed.

He had also been asked multiple times to join riders at parties. He replied, "I'm kind of tied up here," and they would tell him, "Just go hide the bus somewhere!"

Graduate Kyle Smith liked Kern because "he plays pumped up music and jokes around with people, and I've never seen him kick anyone off."

Although the singing, the loud music and the dressing up were all enjoyable parts of going out, Kern was well aware of the importance of his job.

"We're out there providing a service to get them from point A to point B safely," he said. He was also aware of the many demands that come with driving the Late Night Route.

"Just take a deep breath and handle one situation at a time," he said. There are "cars cutting you off, people stumbling into the road and you have to make sure people getting on and off the bus don't get hit by those cars."

Despite all the heavy traffic, "The more people riding, the more fun I personally have," said Kern. He believed one bus could fit around 70 to 75 people, packed tightly, and on a typical night, there would be 500 to 800 people that rode.

The busiest times of the year were the first few weeks of school, except for holidays. This year, Kern turned down his best friend's Halloween party so he could drive the drunk bus.

Because the public transportation department kept records of passenger numbers, they planned ahead of time to run nearly double the number of buses than on an average weekend. For Halloween, the department broke transit records for passenger counts.

"At the beginning of the year, freshmen would go out in huge packs of 20 plus, but they go out later as the year progresses because they learn it's not cool to show up first at the party," he said and laughed.

Kern drove the extra bus on Saturday nights. The extra bus was needed if a particular location was having a lot of parties or if there was an accident and drivers had to switch buses.

Since last year, there had been a few accidents involving the buses, two of which occurred when drivers of separate vehicles were drunk and hit the bus.

Another type of accident involved bodily fluids when people had too much to drink. On an average night, two to four buses would have to be

Drunk bus riders cram the aisles in order to get to their destinations. On a typical Friday or Saturday, buses would transport over 500 students. photo by gareth hermann
exchanged because of those bodily fluids.

In 2008, while Kern was a senior, he was driving around one weekend, and picked up students at the Chandler Bus Stop. One student wanted to get off the bus, and Kern said he would have to wait until the next bus stop. When they reached the next stop, the student hit Kern in the face and ran away.

He filed a police report and there was nothing else he could do. Until three weeks later when that very student rode Kern's bus again. Kern immediately called the police and locked down the bus. Kern took the student to court on charges of assault, but dropped the charges while in court. His reason? He thought everyone deserved a second chance. It's a trying profession.

"At nighttime, we really are a team out there," he explained of the camaraderie between his coworkers. "We help keep each other going, stick together."

The drivers also hang out together after their shifts at 3 a.m.

When there is a new driver, they are paired with an experienced driver on the Late Night Route. The experienced driver explains crowd management and what the later routes require. After a few weekends of pairing together, the new driver can choose whether or not they're comfortable with driving at those hours. But they might be a little more interested after hearing one of Kern's best experiences.

Two male students boarded the bus and pleaded and begged with Kern to drop them off at a certain location. That location was already included in the bus route, so Kern obliged. They were so thankful and so relieved, that one whispered to the other, "You have to tip him!"

The first student only had a $20 bill. The second student had a $5 bill. The first student exited the bus. Kern explained that drivers weren't allowed to accept tips. The first student was adamant and dropped the $20 and ran. The second student thought his friend didn't tip Kern, also dropped the $5 and ran.
The university's Relay For Life Executive Board held a date auction on Nov. 30, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. to raise money for the walk. They offered free cupcakes as potential bidders walked in and started the show at approximately 8 p.m. Thirteen university men volunteered to be auctioned off and take their bidders on an all expenses paid date.

Before the performances and bidding began, senior Christine Saba and sophomore Laura Cromwell reminded the crowd about why people relay. A video montage of past Relay For Life events and cancer patients was played for everyone to see the reality of cancer. After the montage, DJ Ty Walker, a junior, dropped some beats as the auction began.

The very first "biddee" of the night was sophomore James Orrigo, who performed an array of songs on his guitar and serenaded the crowd, asking for bids; to everyone's surprise, Orrigo sold for a total of $55.

Selling T-shirts was another way the Relay for Life team earned money for the walk. The shirts not only raised money, but also raised awareness for the cause.
Another auction participant enjoyed the experience of being sold.

"It's a dream come true to be auctioned to beautiful young ladies for a good cause," said freshman Marquis Woodyard, whose talent was teaching the crowd how to "dougie." He proved his skills and was sold for $100.

Two of the executive board members, junior Logan Kendle and sophomore Greg Nugent, were auctioned as a pair dancing to a medley of songs including "Jump On It," "Hot In Here," "I Will Survive," "YMCA" and "Save A Horse Ride A Cowboy."

"I like people to want me," said Kendle.

His partner in crime, Nugent, claimed, "It's awesome to show everyone how talented I am while raising money for a good cause."

The pair was sold for $125.

The largest act of the night was four young men from Exit 247/The B-Flat Project: Matt Pronio, Anthony Russo, Evan Balaber and James Morrissey. Their group only performed at three events every year, so they didn't perform. However, the audience was shown a video of a past show totaling around five minutes of dancing. These four men raised the most money of the night in one bid, selling for $165.

"I thought they did a really good job with organizing the date auction. It turned out to be funny and a good way to spend a Tuesday night," said freshman Alexa Johnson.

After much counting and recounting, the executive board was surprised when they realized they had raised $1,037.29.

"I think it was very successful and I am relieved that all our hard work paid off," said Co-Chair senior Irene Beam. "All our dates were bid on. I am so proud of everyone on exec [board] for raising over $1,000."
Anew perspective

Take a Look opens doors for prospective students

by sarah lockwood (writer)

Counselor Jessica Brown talks to Take-a-Look day visitors about how to stand out in the college admission process. As an admission counselor, she stressed the importance of looking at all aspects of a university—not just the academics and majors.

Barnes attended Take a Look through Partnership for the Future, a program in Metropolitan Richmond, to help urban students prepare for college. She stayed with a host student and “became close with a lot of the people in the organization so I decided I wanted to do it when I got here.”

On Saturday, Nov. 13, over a thousand prospective students attended Take a Look.

“Most people from a background like the city areas don’t really have the opportunity to see what schools like James Madison have to offer,” Harris spoke from experience. “I go to change the mindset of students,” said Harris.

“I can honestly say I was in a nutshell until I came to James Madison...my mission was to go to a historically black college or university...there’s more to the picture. I would like for students to really see that,” said Harris.

Barnes agreed that many prospective students were wary of the population proportions.

“One girl asked me how was it [going to a
predominantly white school] and I answered them the best that I could,” said Barnes, adding that she didn’t personally have a problem with the lack of diversity.

While the event worked to expose high school students to all of their opportunities, it had the potential to boost minority figures in the population as well.

“I’m not going to say JMU completely lacks diversity, but it’s that question that still lingers as to are we diverse enough,” said Harris.

She felt like SMO helped her acclimate to the new environment and that Take a Look was a good way to bring in more minority students.

“Long-term, I would love to see JMU expand more in diversity,” she said. “I would love to see more people of my color, or just more people of color.”

In the future, Barnes hoped to see more programs getting the same opportunity she received in Partnership for the Future. Although SMO also hosted accepted minority students for a weekend in the spring, Barnes thought that getting to spend a night before then was beneficial.

“We had so many people that wanted to host and you kind of get your hopes up,” said Barnes, who was disappointed when there were not enough prospective students staying the night for her to host one.

She still felt like an important part of the process for many students who told her they planned to apply.

“I gave a couple of them my contact information just in case they needed help with the whole application process,” said Barnes.

Realizing that she was in that position recently, she found the role reversal exciting.

“My favorite part was that they made me feel like a leader,” said Barnes. She saw “the faces, how they were all excited” and was reminded of herself.

“It felt good,” said Barnes. “I was glad that I could be an impact on someone else’s decision.”
full-time
mom, lifelong student

how a mother's decision
to return to school
changed her life

by sarah lockwood [writer]

"I don’t think we ever really stop learning," said Pamela Hamilton, Learning Services Coordinator for the Adult Degree Program (ADP). Some continued this learning formally by returning to college later in life.

Crystal Manning was one such student. The 33-year-old wife and mother of two began taking classes in spring 2009. Originally, she intended to complete her accounting degree through ADP, but eventually chose to become a full-time student majoring in biotechnology.

According to Hamilton, students returned to school for a variety of reasons. Some needed a bachelor’s degree to move up in their career or looked for a complete change in industries, while others did it for self-accomplishment.

After working in accounting and then massage therapy part-time while she cared for her family, Manning wanted a change.

"I think there are some people that can choose to be a full-time mom and I have the utmost respect for them, but it's not me," said Manning. "I feel like I have so much more potential that I just want to go out and I want to do something else."

Changes in the economy often affected decisions about returning to school. "A lot of students are coming in because they want to have a bachelor’s degree to have a little more job security," said Hamilton. Other students could no longer afford school and had to return to work without completing their degrees.

"The economy changes everyday and I feel like we have to change with it," said Manning. "That means that maybe a career that was sustainable 20 years ago is not going to be sustainable anymore. At what point do you stop and say 'Okay, this is what I need to do in order to continue to grow?'"

Adult students often faced additional obstacles. Hamilton’s students had the most difficulty with class scheduling. Manning said her 50-minute commute and lack of sleep challenged her.

"I feel like my family has to take number one priority…but when it comes to making the grade and doing my class work, I have to do that as well, so that usually means sacrificing sleep," said Manning.

While having a family created extra responsibility, it also acted as a support system.

"My family understands why I’m going back to school... It’s going to benefit all of us in the long run, so that perspective allows us to keep going day-to-day," said Manning. "Sometimes the day-to-day is what’s overwhelming. The house doesn’t get cleaned all the time, the laundry doesn’t get done and the groceries don’t get bought. But we’ve all kind of pitched in."

Manning’s ability to juggle her family life and school work impressed her fellow students as well.

"I have a lot of respect for her," said sophomore Seana Sears who became friends with Manning during a chemistry lab. "The fact that we go back to our dorms, we go back to our houses and we do homework, and she has to go take her kids to the doctors, pick them up from soccer practice, take her husband to the airport and all this stuff that we don’t have to even think about…wow."

The ADP students’ ability to juggle home life with classes often impressed Hamilton as well.
Taking a break between classes in ISAT, mother and college student

Crystal Manning flips through The Breeze with a fellow student. Manning hardly found time to relax in between classes, home life and work.

photo by (gareth hermann)

“I look at my life and all I have to deal with is a husband and three cats,” said Manning. “I don’t know after working a full day if I would have the energy to go home and study for final exams and research papers the way they do. And most of the students have young families... I just don’t know how they do and I’m always amazed.”

While the adult students impressed Hamilton, the college-aged ones impressed Manning.

“I did not expect to come back to school and meet so many students that are incredibly mature for their age,” said Manning. While she thought she had a lot to balance, she was inspired by “kids that work full time, and balance a full school schedule, or have other issues and challenges in their life.”

She enjoyed her interactions with these younger students and expected that some of the friendships she would “have for a lifetime.” She appreciated the wide variety of people, sometimes even seeing qualities of her children in her fellow students.

One reason Hamilton was passionate about the importance of supporting adult students like Manning, was that they added to this diversity that Manning enjoyed. They would also be more beneficial in their own neighborhoods.

“I think that it’s really important for the university to provide opportunities for the adult student to complete their degree,” said Hamilton. “They’re only going to be able to contribute more to their community. Most students with a bachelor’s degree are proven to be more community active, volunteering their time and getting involved with the local politics.”

However, she described sending her students back into their communities as bittersweet.

“I’m thrilled that they’re finishing and that they’ve achieved this wonderful goal that they set for themselves, but I’m sad to see a lot of them go,” said Hamilton. “I absolutely love working with the adult students. They are such a great group.”

Hamilton hoped that the program would continue to grow and worked to add online and night classes to ADP options.

“I think the older students on campus can only enhance everyone’s education,” said Hamilton.

Manning wasn’t sure where her interest in immunology and genetics would take her after graduation. Whether she would get involved in university research or continue her education with graduate work, she felt that “the payoff will be just wonderful in the end when I finish and do what I want to do.”
Haunted son burg

several evenings a week,

streets of downtown Harrisonburg, informing groups about the numerous ghosts that lived among them.

The tour began at night. The group departed from the Hardesty-Higgins House, the second oldest building in downtown Harrisonburg which was used as the Harrisonburg Visitor Center. And yes, it was haunted.

She led the group away from the building and crossed through dark streets that never seemed worth noticing in daylight. She paused on a corner to quiz the group members on Harrisonburg history:

“Does anyone know who the first settlers were here?” asked Ha.

The answer led to the story of a German immigrant whose ghost decided to hang around after his death.

“Being able to express Harrisonburg’s history in a different way, people remember it, that’s why I keep coming back,” said Ha.

Joel Hottel, an employee at the university, took the tour and was amazed.

“I’ve lived here all my life and I never knew anything like that,” said Hottel of the paranormal history.

A woman who used to live in the Harrisonburg School Board Building allegedly still haunts the copy room of the building, according to the Haunted Harrisonburg tour. Students who attended the tour heard about ghosts and haunts by soldiers, everyday citizens and poltergeists.

photo by (sun shim)
The Haunted Harrisonburg tour begins at its first haunted spot, the Hardesty-Higgins House in downtown Harrisonburg. Employees of Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance swore to seeing a light in the attic after checking that the light was turned off.

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The stories selected for the tour were initially based on walking distance. Some of the locations Ha described weren’t within sight, but participants could walk to them after the tour ended, such as Duke Hall on the university campus. Secondly, there was a time restriction.

The tour lasted an hour and ten minutes long, so while Ha could have told ghost stories for hours, she had to choose which ones were the most interesting.

“If it’s a good crowd, responsive and open, good reactions, they get the extra-long tours,” explained Ha. Luckily, she said, most of her tours were that way, otherwise she wouldn’t continue doing it. But if a group of skeptics got dragged along, they had the potential to drag the energy of the whole group down.

“As a storyteller, you get your energy from what people are telling you with their faces and their reactions,” said Ha. Even with the amount of time Ha spent in haunted locations, she had never encountered any ghosts.

“I definitely get the goose bumps and I definitely get the ‘I hope I’m not alone in this building,’” said Ha. But as for doing research, she said, “I have to know, but it scares me at the same time.”

During the tour, Ha led the group to Campbell Court Apartments.

Ha told a story of a woman who took the tour in 2008. The woman spotted a young boy in the alley near Campbell Court as Ha led the tour away to the next stop. The woman described the boy picking up what looked like a heavy object and throwing it towards the front of the group. He then ran away and hid behind a car in the alley. The woman went to look behind the car, but the boy had disappeared.

“It gets people out of your skin a little bit, no matter where you’re from or who you are, it’s a shared human experience to be freaked out by something,” said Ha.

One of her favorite things about giving the tour was when "the big burly men get freaked out, who are dragged by their wives, and their eyes are bigger than anyone else’s," said Ha with a laugh.

Common reactions on the tour were open mouths, wide eyes and stillness. During the stories, the crowd didn’t move around to keep warm. They were captivated, and terrified.

Senior Katherine Nale stated she would never spend the night at the Joshua Wilton House after learning ghosts of children roam the halls at night.

Despite the varied reactions from tour participants, Ha said she liked leaving people with the feeling that they’ve just experienced something very cool and unusual.

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by Julia Cramer [writer]

The final concert of the University Program Board’s (UPB) Wilson Fall Concert Series was “An Evening with Sara Bareilles.” The concert took place on Dec. 2, but UPB’s spotlight committee had been preparing for it since the summer.

“We had three dates for Wilson concerts this fall, so we had to find three artists that fit in those dates within our price range,” said junior Colleen Donoghue.

The spotlight committee brought three concerts to the university during the fall; the first two were Cartel in the rock genre and B.o.B. in the hip-hop genre.

“We wanted a different kind of genre when we chose Sara Bareilles, we want to reach as many students as possible,” said Donoghue.

The concert started at 8 p.m., but there were students lining the breezeway to Wilson hours before. Bareilles did not have an opening act, and her set lasted an hour and a half. She played with an all-male band, and opened her set with the song “Vegas.” While the audience started the concert in their seats, by the second song, “Uncharted,” everyone had slowly risen to their feet.

Bareilles rearranged most of her songs slightly to allow her to show off her unique style and her talented voice. During her two-time Grammy nominated single, “Love Song,” she had the entire audience singing along.

Throughout the concert, Bareilles kept the audience entertained not only with her voice and music, but also with her personality. When she accompanied herself on the ukulele, she joked, “This is a ukulele. You guys were like, ‘Did she just shrink that guitar? That was incredible!’”

She introduced her most recent Grammy nominated hit, “King of Anything,” with the blunt statement, “This is an easy song to get behind because it’s all about people who should mind their own f---ing business.”

“I like how she interacted with the audience, [for example] she told us she would eat us up like cupcakes,” said senior Anna Robinson.

Robinson went to her first UPB concert with her friends, seniors Alicia Zinda and Martha Layman, a member of the a capella group Note-oriety. This was also Layman’s first UPB concert.

“We sang a few of her songs, like ‘City’ and ‘Love Song,’ so it was cool to hear her perform songs I’m really familiar with,” said Layman.

Zinda was interested in the concert because Bareilles was a different genre than usual UPB concerts.

“I’m really into country music, and I like her music. She’s genuine, her music comes from her heart,” said Zinda.

Bareilles ended the concert with an encore of her title track, “Kaleidoscope Heart” while she accompanied herself on the accordion. As she ended the show, Bareilles said to the audience, “To be perfectly honest, I was in a sh---ty mood all day, and you guys totally changed my outlook. I can’t wait to come back some day. Will you have me back?” The audience cheered, and she responded, “Ok, I’ll write that down on my hand.”
A darkly lit stage provided an appropriate ambience for Sara Bareilles’ performance in Wilson Hall. While members of the audience stood and sang along to Bareilles’ music, the show was not the typical rock and hip-hop scene of past University Program Board concerts.

Sara Bareilles’ band played traditional instruments though she, at times, played both a ukulele and an accordion. Bareilles played a piano most of the time, such as in her Grammy nominated “Love Song.”

On Dec. 2, Sara Bareilles took over the Wilson Hall auditorium during “UPB Presents...An Evening with Sara Bareilles.” Bareilles performed her songs with an all-male band and her own accompanying instruments.
sweet victory is found through creativity and designing

by lisa mees [writer]

The line was wrapped around the pool tables in TDU, people began scooping out the array of ingredients and some even started sketching out designs. Welcome to Cupcake Wars.

The first UPB event of its kind, Cupcake Wars brought out over 60 amateurs, hobbyists and experienced cupcake decorators. Sophomores Kerianne Condon, Katherine Hartman and Lauren Trapeni originally signed up just so they could eat their finished products, never imagining they'd win. Their cupcake combination took the first prize of the night for the JM-U category in the eight-minute speed round, with purple and yellow mini cupcakes spelling out J-M-U in white sprinkles.

"It's amateur hour here," Condon said as she surveyed the competition for the second round.

When submitting their second masterpiece, cupcakes designed to be each piece of a s'more, they contemplated changing their team name to increase their chances of winning again. However, after the speed round, people had seven more minutes per round, allowing them to start upping their game. Neat and simple seemed to no longer cut it, and eclectic and unplanned weren't even in the running.

As the night went on, the decorators got increasingly competitive. People were scrambling with only two minutes left in round two—designating runners to get more supplies and shouting directions and designs. Freshman Vallie Herndon, originally competing individually, desperately recruited two local 13-year-old girls attending the event to help her assemble her Christmas tree cupcake.

When time was finally called, event coordinators had to ask that all competitors put their hands up so they would stop working. This time, the winners of the JM-U category were a set of cupcakes put together to make a football field with gingerbread men running the ball to the Twizzler goal post. The decorators, juniors Vanessa Olson, Sharon Lockaby and Jaimie Hensley, were intent on taking home the final prize.

Judges scan and contemplate the entries to the Cupcake Wars for a winner. Sandcastles, Pac-Man and football player cupcakes all won prizes in their rounds. photo by (sun shim)
Looking for another plastic knife to frost with, Lockaby picked up a used one and looked it over.

"Do you think anyone's licked this knife before?"

"Are you going to lick it? Do it, I'll take you to the hospital if you get mono," Hensley said.

It was a risk they deemed worthy for their freestyle cupcake, which took on a Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows theme.

"I don't know if you can tell, but we're pretty big fans," Lockaby said.

Unfortunately, the group was beat out by a set of Pac-Man cupcakes. Other big winners of the night were a Sandcastle cupcake and a Hanukkah themed cupcake, which according to sophomore UPB member Matt Schoner, won the diversity prize.

While not everyone left with a prize, they did leave with plenty of cupcakes. As Herndon was leaving with her two competing cupcakes, a friend asked if she won.

"Does it look like I won?" she said, motioning to her cupcakes and rolling her eyes. "You can't even tell what it is."

With plain cupcakes passed out, the designers begin their creations. While some designers stuck with simple cupcakes, others attempted designs surrounding football, holidays and Harry Potter.

Competitors in the first University Program Board Cupcake Wars scope out toppings and begin planning their ideas for their designs. Cupcake Wars allowed students to participate in the cupcake hype sweeping television, businesses, and kitchens everywhere.

One Cupcake Wars team uses all available toppings to create their masterpiece. The University Program Board provided all the necessary materials for the Cupcake War teams.
by Allison Lagonigro [writer]

The Faculty in Residence (FIR) program was developed in hopes of increasing interaction between students and professors. This program involved one faculty member living in a residence hall with university students. This past year, four faculty members lived on campus; one in Chesapeake Hall, Potomac Hall, Shenandoah Hall and Eagle Hall.

"They were looking for faculty to live on campus so that students would be able to observe faculty as normal people, and be able to interact in a non-academic setting," said Amadi Azikiwe, a professor in the School of Music, and resident in Eagle Hall since 2005. "This is meant to allow students to then be more comfortable approaching and talking with their other teachers."

For David Cottrell, the coordinator of the music industry program, living in a residence hall also provided personal benefits.

"Rather than commuting every day, it was a convenience to me," said Cottrell. "I think I relate well to students, and I enjoy their energy."

Most faculty members who participate in the FIR program agree that being part of this unique experience has enriched their life at the university as they are able to interact with students more often. As part of the FIR program, the faculty members are required to host a minimum of six events a year in their halls in addition to attending another six events that are hosted by the Resident Advisors.

"I'm actively involved in helping students who are looking for jobs after they graduate," said Cottrell. "So I do presentations on that, because that's something every student should know about."

In addition to enhancing relationships between students and faculty, the program also served to change faculty's perspectives of students.

"I sometimes have one or two of my own viola students living in Eagle, so I see them more often," said Azikiwe. "I'm very happy always to be able to share music with the Eagle residents, sometimes simply by playing for them a few times a week."

Cottrell enjoyed being available to students outside of the classroom.

"We think of the university as our classroom but that's really only about half. The dorm and the residential life, how the day is structured, what kinds of activities these kids do outside of class, what kinds of support structures exist for the kids as humans is really important," said Cottrell. "Having been part of this FIR program for the past two years has made me aware of my students as human beings as opposed to just as my students."
The Faculty in Residence program allows students to see faculty not only as their professors but also as normal people. Amadi Azikiwe and other in-house faculty members taught their residents various skills.

photo by (sun shim)

Speaking with a music student, Amadi Azikiwe discusses an upcoming event in Eagle Hall. Each Faculty in Residence member was required to host at least six events for the residents in their hall.

photo by (sun shim)
ew and Improv'd, the university's improvisational group, was filled with students who all had a common passion for a unique art form. Each year, the club held auditions for new members, and this past year, the addition of new students to the group and the introduction of a new direction of the group allowed the performers to grow in their art.

The audition process took place over several days and included a workshop day where prospective members can learn more about the art of improv while playing games.

“We look at their style of improv and if that would work with our specific group and their type of humor and how well it blends with ours,” said senior Heather McColium. “Also for confidence, and not being afraid to mess up or fail.”

In addition to more people joining the group, there have been changes made to the direction of the group that were pushed by the group's director after spending time with professional improv group, The Second City.

“There's been a lot of changes that have been instituted just this year and I think a lot of them were kind of sudden,” said director, senior Alan Linic. “I think over time they'll find a new normal as a team, and I strongly believe that the team will be way better off for it.”

Most members of the group agree that the new changes have helped the group's overall performance.

“We've really focused on being in the moment or keeping a scene real and close to reality,” said McColium. “It's really helped to make improv easier so no one has to think as much, it just comes naturally.”

After each performance, the group spoke with the audience about the performance. Hearing feedback from the audience members often helped the performers.

“Hearing the feedback and the moments the audience remembers is always incredibly rewarding,” said senior Mark Powell. “Most times, the funniest moments in my head are completely different from that of the audience members.”

In addition to performances on campus, the group also traveled to The North Carolina Comedy Arts Festival, the largest improv festival on the east coast. During their visit, the group had the chance to perform and attend workshops with professionals.

One of the biggest events on campus was the Improv Bowl. During this event, the group split into two teams and competed against each other.

“It's really a chance to show JMU or our audience what we've been working on during the whole semester as a team,” said McColum.

Being a part of New and Improv'd also worked to form a new perspective of improv for the group members.

“It really transformed for me from a hobby to a performance art form,” said Linic. “It's something you can build skills around and really develop.”

The members of the group had a unique way of looking at their favorite pastime. Just like in life, in improv there was no specific guide on how to carry out a scene. They go by the saying “life is improv,” a statement made by Linic in a video for the group's Facebook page.

“We live life by no assigned script,” said Powell. “And if we do, we haven't read it yet. So as people, we really do have to take life moment to moment and improvise on our feet if we really are to live life to the fullest.”

by allison logonigro [writter]
Whose line is it anyway?

university improv group provides comedic relief

Returning group members senior Katelyn McNichol and sophomore Amanda Kohr wait with newest member freshmen Adrian Jarvis outside of Madison Grill. Auditions depended on finding prospective group members who were funny, and who would easily blend well with the others.

The four newest members of New and Improv'd pose for a very theatrical photograph with their experienced mentors. The group was excited to merge new and old talents in their first show together as a team.

Celebrating their induction into New and Improv'd, the four newest members enjoy a traditional, spontaneous dinner at IHop. In New and Improv'd fashion, the team did not alert the newest members of their acceptance into the club until showing up at their dorm room door step.

photo courtesy of (photographer's name)
the HIT list

a student's guide to the 10 things you must do before graduating

by erica traveline (writer)

Whether from orientation guides freshmen year, or from conversations they overheard throughout campus, many university students have heard of a number of different activities that must be completed before they graduate. Each of these activities was unique to the university, and many students began creating their own lists and pursuing these challenges during their freshman year. While most students’ lists of the “10 things to do before you graduate” varied slightly, there were a few things that were at the top of almost everyone’s list.

The university’s Newman Lake became a top attraction for eager students who wished to complete their lists. Their mission: swim in Newman Lake.

The lake was a signature to the campus, as it greeted all who entered the university. It too had its own history and significance to the university. This tradition of jumping in the lake started with the graduating nursing class of 1982. While swimming, boating and ice skating were all prohibited, students willing to take the risk ranked this challenge as one of the top things to do before they graduated.

Following in a close second, many students sought to complete the age-old tradition of streaking the Quad. While a bold and slightly uncomfortable task, many students felt their list was incomplete without it.

“The hardest one was probably streaking the Quad...it took a lot of gumption and encouragement to do it,” said senior Samantha Tomfohr who had her own list of 10 things to do before she graduated.

Gaining entrance into the Wilson Tower came in third on this list, and was equally as challenging for pursuers. This tower, which was rumored to be haunted by a ghost, was once the highest point in Harrisonburg, and which rings out the alma mater twice daily, was an enticing quest for the bold and the brave.

Next on the list was sneaking into the infamous tunnels located under the Quad. Violent murder, suicide by hanging, abandoned newborns, strange noises and anonymous footsteps were all components of various myths that surrounded these tunnels. In reality, in earlier years students and faculty used the tunnels as a shortcut to get from building to building during times of inclement weather. While the tunnels were restricted to access only by university service technicians, the ambitious sought out ways to gain entrance.

Fifth on the list was the highly competitive and selective task of becoming a First Year Orientation Guide, or FROG. These guides helped freshmen throughout the orientation process and helped them transition into university life.

Another difficult pursuit, which came in at number six on the list, was having a dart or pat selected by the university’s student newspaper, The Breeze. These submissions were made anonymously by students and reflected the students’ opinions of various things such as a person or an event.

Next on the list was kissing someone on the “Kissing Rock.” This lump of limestone had been around for quite some time and was once used by female students who were looking for a place to hide and get some privacy for a goodnight kiss from their lovers. The most recent
The students lucky enough to find the entrance to the tunnels that run underneath the Quad find them filled with graffiti, trash and construction equipment. The tunnels had been closed for decades.

A few other Harrisonburg hot spots also made the list of things to do before graduation. For example, number seven on the list was to spend at least an afternoon hanging out at Blue Hole. In nearby George Washington National Forest, this swimming hole allowed students an afternoon of relaxation and sun bathing in and around the refreshing waters.

Another main Harrisonburg attraction that made the list was having breakfast at Mr. J’s Bagels and Deli. Mr. J’s, which aimed to bring New York style bagels down to Harrisonburg, was especially crowded with university students on weekends.

Last on the list of university students’ “10 things to do before you graduate” was to complete an alternative spring break trip. According to the university’s Community Service Learning website, these trips, which took place nationally and internationally, “train and immerse students in purposeful service experience designed to connect students and community members while enhancing personal growth, mutual awareness and life-long learning.”

As a result of such great interest among students, the trips have expanded over the years to include Thanksgiving, May break and even weekends.

While individual students’ lists of the “10 things to do before you graduate” varied, most in pursuit of these challenges were able to gather up a group of their friends to bring along.

“I’ve done most of the items on the list with friends and roommates. It’s been fun exploring the unique parts of Harrisonburg that you can easily miss in the university bubble,” said Tomfohr.

Each of the tasks was unique to the university and provided pursuers with countless, unforgettable memories.
small-framed girl climbed up the stepladder, shuffled her papers and moved the microphone closer to her face. Without the stepladder, she wouldn’t have been visible behind the lectern. The audience smiled.

“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. changed my life because he stood up for the people who were not white, like me, because I’m Chinese,” said Irene Liu, a fourth grader at Smithland Elementary School in Harrisonburg.

The university held a formal event on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, which included a number of awards, presentations and a guest speaker. Irene participated in a competition for Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County public schools. The idea of the competition was to have some creative expression of how King inspired their life’s journey.

Two other students received awards as well.

The entire audience applauded Irene’s words; one person yelled, “Amen.”

The keynote speaker for the event was Susan L. Taylor. Taylor was Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of Essence Magazine and was the founder and CEO of National CARES Mentoring Movement.

She said she was pleased to have been asked to speak at the university, and her ability to remember her friendship with Coretta Scott King. Taylor recounted that Coretta said King practiced what he preached, morally, in both his public and private life.

Taylor took that to heart, and while having a comfortable position as editor-in-chief of a magazine, after Hurricane Katrina, she said, “I have to do something.” So she founded the National CARES Mentoring Movement.

At a formal event held on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, guest speaker Susan L. Taylor speaks on the current injustices of the world and the need to defeat them. Taylor’s personal devotion was to National CARES Mentoring Movement. photo courtesy (dan gorin/ JMU photography services)
When she was doing research for the campaign, years ago, she said she learned 80 percent of African-American fourth graders were reading below grade level. She said 56 percent were functionally illiterate.

"I said, 'I'm out of here, because they'll be no Essence in a generation and a half!'" said Taylor.

She explained that people today don't have to create a whole movement like King, but that people should pick one issue and be devoted to it, which is what Taylor did by starting her campaign.

"I challenge you to reach for something higher, so that King's life wasn't taken in vain," said Taylor to the audience.

The ceremony ended with a candle lighting. Each candle represented someone who was upholding King's vision.

Valarie Ghant, the director of the Center for Multicultural Student Services, thanked the participants and the audience for attending, and noted there was a "phenomenal turnout for the March and Speak Out."

The March and Speak Out was a march across campus held earlier in the week, to show the community how King had inspired the university. There was also a NAACP faculty, staff and student breakfast earlier in the week.
Three food, activities and music kept students coming back to Festival once a month for Late Night Breakfast.

On Jan. 20, Late Night Breakfast fell on the same night as Student Org. Night, drawing in more students to participate in the event.

"The two events were not originally planned together," said junior Director of Spirit and Traditions Committee Melissa Janocha. "When we realized that we would both be hosting elaborate events in Festival, we decided it would be cool to intertwine our ideas."

University Program Board (UBP) hosted the event while the Spirit and Traditions committee planned and organized the breakfast. With a theme of board games, the committee brainstormed ideas ranging from games to offer to the types of breakfast food to serve.

"The great thing about UBP is that it is primarily student-run, so generally speaking, if we have an idea, we are able to implement it," said Janocha. "Student Org. Night has incorporated games and other entertainment during their event in the past, so we took some of what they do and made it work for a [Late Night Breakfast] theme, which is how we came up with the board game idea."

Along with planning and brainstorming, the committee incorporated member volunteers and other organizations as food servers to keep the event running smoothly.

"There are about 25 members of the Spirit & Traditions committee, so members volunteer to work the event," said Janocha. "Also, we rotate through different organizations on campus who are interested in getting volunteer hours to serve the breakfast food at the Late Night Breakfasts. We often have had Club Swimming or Club Tennis volunteer in the past, and we are always willing to find other organizations who are interested in helping."

With free food as a staple of Late Night Breakfast, games, music and other activities provided students with something to do on Thursday nights. Board game Late Night Breakfast
Friends and sophomores Amanda Stiefvater and Rebecca Pratt have fun placing oversized red and yellow Connect Four pieces into different rows. The University Program Board worked hard to design and create various classic games in exaggerated forms for the Late Night Breakfast.

Late Night Breakfast originally started about seven years ago. When it became a UPB sponsored event, it evolved into the monthly tradition it is today, keeping students coming back for more.

“I will definitely try to make it to as many late night breakfasts that I can in the future,” said sophomore Jyoti Singh. “The free food is another bonus to look forward to as well.”

Late Night Breakfast offered Giant Jenga, Connect-4 and Snakes and Ladders, along with Inflatable Twister and an over-sized Operation game. There was also Mini Hoops, Monster Basketball and playing cards scattered throughout Festival.

“I've been to Late Night Breakfast before and I love to see the different activities and games each late night breakfast theme has to offer,” said sophomore Jyoti Singh. “The free food is another bonus to look forward to as well.”

From pancakes and hash browns to games and activities, Board Game Late Night Breakfast attracted students with its free food and fun atmosphere while the event continued to keep the tradition alive each month.
Doing some sightseeing before the parade, the Marching Royal Dukes (MAD) pose for a Kodak moment in front of Buckingham Palace. The MADs agreed that this trip was a great opportunity for the band to gain both experience and exposure.

Practicing for their big day marching in the London's New Year's Day Parade, the Marching Royal Dukes (MAD) tune and play their instruments in a hotel ballroom. The trip to England marked the MAD's first trip abroad since 2006 when they visited Dublin.

Pausing for a minute of fun before the marching begins, the band socializes with a storm trooper. Along with the day of the parade, the MADs spent seven days touring, practicing, and having fun in London.

Photo courtesy (laura pond)
During winter break, the Marching Royal Dukes were given the opportunity to travel to London and perform in the city's 25 annual New Year's Day Parade. Before traveling to London, the band planned to spend several days visiting Paris. However, due to flight cancellations caused by snowstorms, many of the band members were unable to visit Paris before heading to London as originally planned.

"Despite not going to Paris, it was still a fantastic trip," said senior Heather Potter. Potter was one of the band members who was stuck in the U.S. due to snow.

Sophomore Stephanie Brownell was another band member who had to deal with rearranging travel plans due to weather. "It was very stressful getting out of the country because I had layovers both directions," said Brownell. "But once I got there, it was worth it."

Despite the travel difficulties that occurred, the band members all agreed that their time in London was well spent and that they enjoyed experiencing everything that the city had to offer, especially those students who had never traveled to London before.

"It turned out that just walking the streets was a good time," said Potter. "Just listening to people talk and the way they talked, and trying to cross the roads without getting hit by cars, and watching the double decker buses navigate the streets — it was awesome."

The day of the parade was filled with the city's energy and enthusiasm. For the band members, the two-mile parade was tiring but worth the experience.

"It was tiring and we were too big to fit into the performance area, but it was more than worth it," said Brownell. "I didn't even get to play to the crowd for the performance, but I could still feel the energy!"

The parade itself began at noon on Jan. 1, and the march took them past many of London's famous landmarks such as Big Ben.

Several members of the Marching Royal Dukes had performed in the 2008 Macy's Day Parade in addition to performing in the London parade.

"I thought the Macy's parade was a real dream come true," said senior Laura Pond. "And not many people have the opportunity to do that."

For Pond, the two parades did have their differences.

"The Macy's parade is a big, long commercial," she said. "The parade in London was actually like a parade, and showcased the performers in the parade, which I think is definitely better and more favorable to the people that go to the parade."

The Marching Royal Dukes' performance in London's 25 annual New Year's Day Parade was an experience of a lifetime that, despite some initial conflicts, turned out to be well worth the trouble.
Though students went out to bars such as Dave's Taverna, they still resorted to playing their favorite drinking games, such as quarters. Dave's Taverna remained a popular choice among students with their $2 pitcher deals. (photo by Annie Kraft)

While some students went to Beyond, an Asian-infusion restaurant downtown, for dinner others went just for drinks. Beyond provided a variety of drinks other than just beer and wine. (photo by Annie Kraft)
While the apartment party scene and the "drunk bus" might have been the thrill of freshman and sophomore years, older university students sought to find a different kind of drinking atmosphere. They ventured out into the surrounding area to see what the different bar scenes around Harrisonburg had to offer.

"[It's] a fascinating niche, an alcove of the JMU experience filled with all sorts of unexpected people and perspectives," said senior Jackson Breyer. "Also, beer."

While the number of bars was relatively small in comparison to other college towns, students were able to find enough variety in the different venues to satisfy all of their different tastes.

"It's not bad. There's definitely room for expansion because it's limited," said junior Mary Ruth Hart. "But we have a unique quality in it with places like Jack Browns and the Blue Nile."

For starters, one of the favorites among university students was the Artful Dodger, located in Harrisonburg's downtown area. This quaint site, with its retro décor, was a coffee and tea café by day, but at night, it turned into one of the most popular places to test different wines, beers and creative cocktails.

Another popular scene in the downtown area was Dave's Taverna. This landmark "independent family owned restaurant" was essential to the downtown experience. The wide range of food and drink specials, the atmosphere provided by the venue's "Taratsa," or rooftop dining area and the potential for live music provided an almost irresistible attraction for university students.

Continuing through the downtown area, Clementine Café proved to be a popular stop for the university's of-age crowd. The café's mission was to "provide quality food, music, drinks, art, films and community events in an atmosphere that [was] both sophisticated and accessible to everyone." It offered a more urbane experience than the typical college bar scene. Its large selection of beers and the creditability established by bringing in more well-known bands, like popular reggae band Soldiers of Jah Army, brought the urban feel to downtown Harrisonburg.

"I like to go to Clementine because it isn't your average bar," said senior Michelle Ojeda. "They have great live entertainment, eclectic décor and amazing happy hour specials."

Venturing away from the downtown scene, university students frequented a few other bars around the area.

Another bar that attracted large crowds was Jimdels, located on South Main Street. Jimdels offered a more "nightclub" feel for the university crowd with its large dance floor, full bars, pool tables and stage for karaoke. Jimdels gave Thursday nights, or "College Night," a whole new meaning with its happy hour specials and their beer pong tournaments.

AJ Gators, or just Gators, another well-liked venue, was a sports bar and grill located on Port Republic Road. With its convenient location to both the university campus and the off campus apartment complexes, and its relaxed atmosphere, Gators enticed students looking to catch a game, socialize with friends, or enjoy many of the food and drink specials offered daily.

Finally, a popular favorite amongst university students was Dona Rosa's Mexican Restaurant located off of East Market Street. This popular Mexican restaurant became famous among students for their giant and cheap "Fishbowl Margaritas." For the typical college student on a budget, the hot spot offered alcohol at pocket-friendly prices.

Accessible with a short cab ride, these popular bar scenes located around the Harrisonburg area provided the of-age university crowd with a new social atmosphere as they began to outgrow the once beloved university apartment party scene and "drunk bus."
HITTING THE SLOPES

experienced students enjoy local winter sports

by mary claire jones (writer)

or some, the thought of strapping two planks of titanium and fiberglass to their feet was terrifying. But for students like seniors Natalie Sherman and Amy Kraft, skiing came as easy as walking.

"I started skiing when I was 3," said Sherman. "My dad took my brother and me skiing very often and... I loved it from the very first time I went."

Kraft also developed an early love of skiing.

"I have been skiing since the first year I was allowed to be in pee-wee ski school," said Kraft. "I was four at the time and have been skiing ever since."

For Kraft, the access to nearby ski resorts was just one of the perks of attending the university.

"My family takes a ski vacation every year so I knew I would still ski in the winter whether a resort was close or not," said Kraft. "But it is definitely a plus to being here at JMU near so many resorts."

Similarly, Sherman knew that she wanted to attend a school that allowed her to foster her love of skiing.

"I applied to schools up north that have much better snow conditions," Sherman said. "But JMU was such a great place. I just couldn't pass up the school. It was definitely helpful to know that there are decent resorts nearby."

When she arrived at the university, Sherman was eager to find an outlet for her enthusiasm.

"I was involved with my school's ski club [growing up], so it's always been really fun for me, and I knew it was something I wanted to continue in college," said Sherman.

The university offered many opportunities for Sherman to take advantage of both her skills and her love of skiing.

"I was able to make some connections with other skiers in the area," said Sherman. "We have a team that races at Massanutten. We ski together often and then race once a week."

Sherman explained the races were "pretty relaxed... you can be intense if you want, but you have a lot of fun with it at the same time. It's great to be able to compete still, but it is so nice that it is relaxed and not too time consuming."

The races were set up as Giant Slalom, and were a combination of technical skill and speed. Skiers had to maneuver through a series of gates as quickly as they could, and if a gate was missed by a skier, they were disqualified.

"We are judged on our individual times, but as part of a team," said Sherman. "If you place each week, you earn points for your team's overall standings."

While the competition was not as intense at the university as Sherman had experienced growing up, it did nothing to deter her enthusiasm.

"We don't have tournaments... just racing days [when we do our events]," said Sherman. "The racing that I do now is against teams made up of individuals from other schools, from JMU, and some people who have already graduated."

But whether skiing for fun or for competition, Sherman maintained that her love for the sport is something that will never change.

"I've been skiing for so long that it just feels natural... almost as if I am putting on a pair of my favorite shoes," said Sherman.

Gliding down some smaller slopes, junior Annie Kraft focuses on keeping her balance. Snowboarders found that learning how to balance was the first step in learning how to board.

photo by (leslie haase)
While some students prefer balancing on two pieces of titanium and fiberglass, others opt for balancing on just one piece of plastic and metal. Both skiing and snowboarding proved popular as students returned to the university with tickets still attached to their jackets.

Massanutten Resort, off of Route 33 East, provides a resort-like getaway for students. The resort offered winter sports such as skiing, snowboarding and tubing as well as summer sports such as swimming and tennis.

At Massanutten Resort, students are able to go to two different terrain parks. CMB Terrain Park was only open to experts, while Easy Street Terrain Park contained features available to all.

photo by Leslie Hasse
As freshmen, Gil Welsford and Ty Walker were frustrated with the lack of dancing in Harrisonburg. They weren't 21, they couldn't get into any clubs. So they decided to start their own.

Welsford explained the two became "obsessed with the idea, we talked to as many people as we could." They first had to figure out the location. Where do you set up a nightclub for underage university students? They needed the space to hold a lot of people, but not too big to feel like a high school gym, said Welsford.

They settled on Transitions in Warren Hall because there were no windows, and they could hang lights, creating a nightclub environment. But they had to get permission from the university first.

Around 10 university offices originally declined Welsford and Walker. They wanted to set a number of restrictions. Eventually, the two met Paige Hawkins, a university employee.

"Let's do this," Welsford remembered Hawkins saying. Hawkins was impressed by their enthusiasm. Welsford and Walker were able to run the entire event themselves, going to Hawkins only for logistical reasons, such as getting wristbands for attendees or reviewing fire code regulations.

Then the two had to get the word out.

"I copied and pasted the link for an hour on everyone's [facebook] wall, a lot of people got pissed off," said Walker with a laugh. "It was literally word of mouth, we didn't have flyers."

Welsford said his friends weren't encouraging in the beginning. "We had so many people tell us that we couldn't do it, that it wouldn't happen," said Welsford. But hard work and perseverance paid off.

Hawkins attended the first event and said, "It didn't feel like I was on the JMU campus, I felt like I was at a club." She explained that Club GILTY was extremely successful and exceeded her expectations.

So they decided to do it again.
Sheer numbers alone show the event is successful," said Hawkins. On average there were two to three hundred students attending.

"There's not anybody that comes and doesn't have a great time," said Walker. Their biggest challenge was getting students to attend for the first time.

Walker, who DJs Club GILTY events, made a point to leave his station during the event to walk around and talk to people. He wanted to build that rapport.

"They're always trying to find new ways to improve it, to engage more students," said Hawkins. One way they kept changing Club GILTY was through the themes. From black and white, birthday and highlighter, no Club GILTY experience was the same as the last.

Hawkins said university feedback had been overwhelmedly positive.

For the 2010 Orientation week, Club GILTY held an event in the Festival Ballroom. The room's capacity was 1,850. They had to turn away 150 students.

Sarah Sloan was one of the freshmen at that particular Club GILTY event. She thought it was a one-time event, but once she realized it was recurring, she went to every event this year.

"I didn't realize there would be an actual DJ," said Sloan. She went in expecting an on-campus party, but "it was so loud because of so many people" it felt like more of a nightclub atmosphere.

She loves that it's on a Thursday night, so she can "let go of the stress of your week and dance!"

Welsford's favorite part of Club GILTY was "a crowd of people having just a blast, and knowing you created it. All this hard work just paid off."

He also said that he doesn't think he's ever gotten negative feedback.

Due to Club GILTY's success at the university, Welsford and Walker are starting to look at other universities in Virginia to gauge an interest in creating a franchise.

The two were also looking toward the future as to who will continue Club GILTY after Welsford and Walker graduate. One thing was for certain, they had no plans of stopping anytime soon.
students gain confidence and get into shape via Martial Arts

by allison lagonigro [writer]

hat started out as a hobby soon turned into a full-time job for Karate studio owner and kickboxing instructor Grand Master Harold Halterman. Halterman ran his own school in Harrisonburg, which became popular among students for its self-defense classes.

Halterman first began martial arts during his time in the military in 1968. Since then, Halterman has developed his own unique system of kickboxing, MOSHI Kickboxing, and hoped to begin teaching his students more about the system so that they would be able to go out and teach it to others.

When developing his own style of kickboxing, Halterman carefully constructed a criteria for the program that combined elements from several different areas, which would work together for a common goal.

“What I wanted to do was to teach a kickboxing system that people who wanted to go into full contact could with it, but the main focus was to give students a realistic self-defense in kickboxing, plus get them into dynamite shape,” said Halterman.

Practicing kicks, senior Stephanie Larson perfects her technique. Larson and others learned how better technique leads to better results when kickboxing.

photo by (beth principi)
Since the beginning of his course, Halterman wanted to instruct others on how to teach his program through an Instructor Certification course.

"The instructor certification is going to be more in-depth than our regular kickboxing program because you're going to have to know everything," said Halterman.

So far, interest in the course had exceeded Halterman's expectations. With no program similar to Halterman's in existence, his students were enthusiastic about learning how to teach the course and share their knowledge.

"There are a lot of job opportunities for instructors and possibilities to make a good profit from it," said senior Chelsea Ronayne, one of Halterman's students. "Plus, I enjoy the kickboxing and would have fun teaching others the things I have learned."

Students that have taken classes with Halterman all agreed that the class helped them with their personal confidence, as well as prepared them to handle bad situations.

"Since coming to this class, I have learned how to properly punch, kick, and defend myself. I feel more confident that I can protect myself in a bad situation," said Ronayne. "The class has also improved my overall physical condition and has helped to get me into shape."

This personal growth was what made the teaching experience well worth the time and effort for Halterman.

"My favorite part is working with students who come in with very little self-esteem or maybe have been a victim of an attack, and turning them around to where they have confidence and can defend themselves to where they're not afraid to walk down the street at night," said Halterman. "To see a student blossom into that person that where they can accomplish something in life and not be afraid to try."

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The Bluestone 2011

the WORLD of JENKS: JMU edition

by sarah lockwood [writer]

It was 7:15 p.m., 45 minutes before he would walk on stage, but a predominantly female crowd hurried through the opening doors of Wilson to see him. Filmmaker Andrew Jenks waited backstage, unaware of the strange questions and flirtations he would receive in the next two hours.

Jenks began telling stories from his childhood and moving around for his dad's job. When living in non-English speaking countries, Jenks fought boredom with a VHS camera, making up stories about what he filmed. As a freshman at NYU, Jenks saw the opportunity for a new story.

At 19-years-old, Jenks produced "Room 335," documenting his summer living in a nursing home, which HBO eventually bought. Then, MTV contacted Jenks for a new project.

"MTV had the idea of me moving into subcultures that were geared toward younger people, so rather than documenting my experience in a nursing home, it would be me documenting my journey with a homeless woman or an autistic kid," said Jenks.

Thus, "World of Jenks," was born. After his first season aired, now 24-year-old Jenks visited the university, hosted by University Program Board, to share his story.

His narrative was outlined by three main messages that he hoped to share. The first became clear when he was looking for a retirement home to shoot "Room 335." After receiving approximately 25 rejections, a home in Florida agreed to let Jenks move in for free, eat free meals and film his experience.

"Never take no for an answer," said Jenks. "I use no' as a starting point now. 'No' is like a turn on for me. Except with girls."

While this last comment earned him one of many laughs, the sentiment was not completely accepted.

"I thought the whole 'don't take no for an answer' thing was a smart thing to tell people," said junior Maria Lane. "But it's not always going to work for everyone."

A second story involving a white lie to MTV executives to cover his lack of professional office experience taught Jenks another lesson.

"Fake it till you make it," said Jenks.

Lane found this message more relevant.

"It is probably really important when you're young and up-and-coming in something you're not really experienced in," said Lane.

Another thing Jenks shared with the audience was the importance of the ability to adapt. To exemplify this lesson, Jenks described an episode following rapper Maino who told Jenks he had to do one thing for him. Standing a stairwell of a bad neighborhood, Jenks had no idea what he was supposed to do as Maino chanted "I'm going to hit you up." Eventually Maino's friends began rolling something and Jenks realized he was supposed to smoke marijuana.

"I'm not promoting drugs," said Jenks, "but sometimes you just have to adapt," referring to the calm facade he maintained.

He admitted that he realized he couldn't fake it and had to take a hit to gain Maino's trust and acceptance.

Jenks also talked about what it was like to shoot an episode, explaining that the first couple days of living with a stranger are often awkward.

"In the show, I assume I'm a little bit more personable, because we're cutting 140 hours down into 19 minutes and 50 seconds, but I'm not, like, a particularly social person," said Jenks.

This humble awkwardness was apparent on stage. Though his fiddling with his beanie and stumbling over words didn't distract from the message, it showed his lack of comfort.

"I was surprised at how many times he stuttered, but I think that shows that he's still just a real guy," said senior Nicole Novelli.

Invited by University Program Board, Andrew Jenks relates his experiences in filmmaking to life lessons. In his discussion, he talked about smoking marijuana, living with a homeless woman, and living in a nursing home. (Photo by Danielle Strickler)
In the Wilson Auditorium, filmmaker Andrew Jenks discusses everything from his MTV show to his relationship status. The auditorium was filled with a predominately female audience. photo by (danielle strickler)

This discomfort did not seem to deter Jenks’ fan base. When he opened it up to questions, many bold hands were raised.

“Have you ever considered growing a mustache?” one woman asked.

Another asked how long Jenks would be at the university and would he like a tour, which he avoided directly answering.

“Do you have a girlfriend?” an even bolder student asked.

“How do you know it’s not a boyfriend?” Jenks cleverly responded, drawing another laugh from the audience. He eventually confessed he was single.

Jenks also revealed how much he cared about his mini-documentaries’ subjects.

“I keep in contact with all of them. It’s important that we’re asking these people to be put in a fairly vulnerable position. It’s important that there’s a trust level that exists between myself and the subjects. So they all have my cell phone [number],” said Jenks. He had visited Heavy D, a homeless woman, and Chad, a young man with autism, the week before.

While he learned something from every episode, Jenks didn’t want to pick favorites.

“That would be almost like answering who’s your favorite kid,” he said.

There’s no doubt that viewers had favorites of this inspirational show, which played alongside “Jersey Shore” and “16 and Pregnant.”

“I think it’s definitely different for MTV,” said Lane.

Jenks defined the difference by the variety in “World of Jenks.”

“I think that our show is different in the sense that we try and capture a wide range of voices of young Americans,” he said. “For every rock star, we have a young man with autism or a homeless girl or an animal rescuer.”

While Jenks said he was casting for a potential season two, his hope for the future was to direct fiction, possibly including a script he wrote about the culture of hobos and train riding.}
The classic college image had some truth. Students were strapped for cash. However, on-campus jobs provided a convenient source of income.

In the basement of Carrier was a little known desk called Media Resources. Here, student workers checked-in and out laptops, DVDs, VHSes, and other equipment including video cameras and tripods. Senior Javier Castro worked as a Media Desk Assistant for two years.

While most students had to look up DVDs and request them, Castro had the advantage of perusing the shelves of videos behind the desk.

"I like films a lot so I get to be around films," said Castro.

The environment was another aspect of the job that attracted Castro. When the center was quiet, workers were encouraged to use the time for homework. The central location on campus also made the job convenient for scheduling.

While this relaxed atmosphere suited Castro, others felt that active jobs made the time go by faster. Freshman Seattle Heiman began working at Market One in the spring and was surprised by how much she enjoyed it.

"A lot of my friends wouldn't consider getting a job like that," said Heiman. "They think it's lowly or boring, but it's not a bad job. You work with really nice people, so it actually goes by pretty fast."

Heiman spent some of her eight hours a week making dough for Sbarro, but usually worked at Burger Junction, where she enjoyed the student interactions.

Working at the University Recreation (UREC) Welcome Center, sophomore Frank Ashby found that other jobs offered this interaction and social aspect as well.

"I wanted to get more involved on campus and start talking to and hanging out with a new group of people," said Ashby.

While nine hours a week of swiping JACs, answering phones, scheduling massages and handling FLEX transactions paid for books and extra expenses, Ashby found friends at UREC, too.

"I think this is the best job on campus," said Ashby. "Everyone that I work with is really cool and really nice. We have social gatherings where we all hang out. I don't feel like any other on-campus place has a thing where the employees hang out and actually enjoy each other's company."

While she didn't socialize with her coworkers outside of work, senior Corbin Wagner found friendship at her on-campus job as well. As an operations assistant at Madison Union, Wagner worked at the desk in Warren as well as the Taylor Down Under (TDU) desk. It was her co-workers who made this job enjoyable as well.

"I like the people," said Wagner. "I really, genuinely like everyone who works here and my bosses are great."

Another perk of the job was its flexibility.

"I wanted a job that was understanding of schoolwork," said Wagner. "It averages about 10 hours a week which is perfect. If I have a really big test the next day or something, people are understanding, they'll cover your shift."

Most on-campus jobs had advantages, but each had frustrating aspects as well.

"Sometimes you'll get a participant who will come in and just basically think that we can do stuff that we can't and heckle you," said Ashby. "You have to just act professional. It's kind of frustrating sometimes."

It seemed Wagner had similar annoyances.

"The most annoying is when everyone thinks we're the post office and we're not," said Wagner. "Freshmen still ask us probably 10 times a day."

Working the desk in TDU had some negative consequences as well.

"There's cameras so you can see all of TDU, like when people are making out," said Wagner. "It's kind of gross."

At the end of the day, workers looked over these difficulties, because the cliché held. They needed money. And while these and many other student workers were able to fill their empty wallets through on-campus jobs, it seems most also made a few friends.
Unusual considering PC Dukes' popularity, one student pays for her purchase without having to suffer the long lines. During dinner or lunch rush hours, students who worked at PC Dukes had to quickly keep lines moving and deal with the stressors of a loud environment. 

Students answer phone calls and swipe gym-goers into UREC. Employees at UREC claim they had the best job on campus because of the bonds they made with their co-workers.

Top Dog's Starbucks presents an alternative option for students who love their caffeine but not the long lines in Carrier. Students who held jobs here had to be comfortable with a fast-paced working environment and complicated drink orders.

Seniors Corbin Wagner and Diana Vigilante work at the front desk of Madison Union. Madison Union was in charge of hosting events, setting up rooms and designing posters and flyers for organizations.
it’s not every day you can get your picture taken with Kanye West, Lady Gaga and Justin Bieber all at once. But at the University Program Board (UPB)’s Grammy Night, photo ops were just the tip of the iceberg.

The Grammy award ceremony aired on Feb. 13 and for the first time ever, UPB decided to host a night devoted completely to the show. Held in the Grafton-Stovall Theater, attendees were treated to snacks, Grammy trivia, and polls for performers they thought should win respective awards.

Senior Angela Marino spearheaded the event, hosted specifically by UPB’s Center Stage Committee. Center Stage was focused on all music-related activities on campus, specifically the Convocation concerts that happened each semester. But because the spring concert didn’t take place until much later in the year, Marino wanted to organize something for her committee to do during the downtime.
Grabbing a snack, students wait for the Grammy’s to begin. Center Stage that hosts all music-related events on campus, put on the event.

photo by (leslie haase)

Before the Grammy awards began, senior Charlie Steele writes down his predictions for the winner in each category. In addition to the games and snacks, University Program Board broadcasted the awards on a big screen television.

photo by (leslie haase)

“We do listening parties and stuff, but we wanted something to get the community more involved,” said Marino.

During commercial breaks, the sizable crowd asked Grammy trivia, such as current nominees, past winners, and trivia about the ceremony itself. Winners were entered into a raffle to win tickets to the spring Convocation concert featuring Wiz Khalifa.

Part of the allure of the event, Marino explained, was the chance to watch the ceremony on the big screen as opposed to in dorm rooms. That extra incentive definitely seemed to work.

“It’s a big event, and we wanted to see it on the big screen,” said freshman Harrison Jones. “Especially for my girl Rihanna.”

Freshman Hillary Chester was also drawn to the event by the excitement of seeing her favorite celebrities on the big screen.

“Lady Antebellum is definitely one of my favorites,” said Chester. “This was a really cool way to get people to come out.”

Lady Antebellum was a big winner, taking home Record of the Year, Song of the Year, and Country Performance by a Duo or Group for their hit “Need You Now,” as well as Best Country Album for their album of the same name. Surprise winners included Arcade Fire’s The Suburbs for Album of the Year and Esperanza Spalding as Best New Artist. Other winners included Lady Gaga, Muse and Bruno Mars.

During a commercial break, sophomore Laetitia Biscos and freshman Jeff McCallister ask the audience Grammy trivia questions. Students who answered correctly were entered into a raffle to win Wiz Khalifa tickets.

photo by (leslie haase)
With the coming of age, 21-year-old students branched out of Harrisonburg to experience wine tastings for the first time. Being new to experiencing all of the varieties of wine and their specific tastes, students learned about the histories and processes of wines and enjoyed tasting them.

"For my 21st birthday, my friends and I went wine tasting at Horton Vineyards in Gordonsville and Barboursville Vineyards in Charlottesville," said junior Amanda Rodriguez. "For most of us, it was our first time wine tasting, so it was fun to learn about the wine culture and how wine tasting works together. It was fun to compare what we all liked and didn't like; sometimes we were all in agreement and other times we would joke around and make fun of each other because we had completely different reactions."

Depending on the winery, different vineyards provided different atmospheres for guests throughout their trips. While some offered tours, history, and information about wine processing, others provided a fun atmosphere highlighting the different holidays surrounding the tour.

"Both vineyards that we went to included a tour of the winery as well as wine tasting," said Rodriguez. "When we went to Horton they were having a Mardi Gras festival, so during the tour of the wine cellar, the tour guide would throw you beads when you answered a question."

Different wineries also offered unique presentations of wine and cheese to the table. Along with the normal red and white wines, wineries also offered foods for cleansing the palette and dessert wines.
“Since there was a Mardi Gras Festival at Horton Vineyards, on top of the usual cheddar cheese and oyster crackers they had gumbo, chili, and cake,” said Rodriguez. “At Barboursville, they didn’t have as big of a selection of wines to taste. However, their wines are recognized nationally as some of the best on the east coast. Barboursville also offered saltine crackers to help cleanse your palette while trying the different wines.”

Along with tasting and learning about different wines, students brought wine back home with them and recommendations for friends and families.

“I definitely would like to go wine tasting again since there are so many different vineyards to see around this area,” said junior Tatjana Lyons. “I would recommend wine tasting as a fun day activity especially in the spring and summer months. It is something you can do with your friends and enjoy the scenery and learn about the area’s history while you are there.”

With the opportunity to legally drink, students could taste and learn about the different types of wine, how they’re made, and what they considered to be their favorite.

“I would love to go on a wine tasting trip again,” said Rodriguez. “I’m still learning about what kinds of tastes appeal to me as far as wine goes, so the trip was a great way to explore and experiment with different flavors and styles of wine. So far I think I prefer white wines.”

Turning 21 came with opportunities that allowed students to expand their knowledge and interests about wine.

Junior Amanda Rodriguez enjoys tasting a glass of red wine at Horton Vineyards in Gordonsville, Va. Rodriguez and friends traveled to local vineyards as a birthday celebration.

A showcase of award-winning wines are on display at Barboursville Vineyards in Charlottesville. The winery’s signature wine, Octagon, won Gold medal in the State Fair of Virginia’s wine competition.

Photo courtesy (amanda rodriguez)
two students reflect on oppression in Egypt

Smit E

aley Smith attended the Cairo American College, an international high school, for two years before arriving at the university in 2007. Sophomore Meghann Joyce spent 10 days in Egypt before traveling to Jordan for five more, ultimately flying back to Virginia in early February. Neither girl was a stranger to the country. Both of their hearts broke when they heard about the violence surrounding the revolution.

Egyptian citizens began protests on Jan. 25, responding to oppression by President Hosni Mubarak. Police reacted with tear gas and rubber bullets, but that didn't stop protestors from raising their shoes in defiance and speaking out against an unjust government.

"If I had the choice, I'd go back to Cairo in a heartbeat," said Joyce, who was supposed to study at the American University of Cairo for the spring semester. She didn't want to study abroad anywhere else and decided her best option was to return to the university and take classes.

During the two years she lived in Cairo, while her father worked at the American Embassy, Smith grew accustomed to the culture and the people. She took Arabic her senior year of high school and exchanged conversation with the doorman to her family's building.

"You always joke. You're like, 'Well that's Egypt for you,' because the people are really spirited," said Smith, a senior.

Initially, she and several friends both in Egypt and the United States didn't expect the revolution to escalate like it did. What frightened Smith was not being able to contact her friends in Egypt once Mubarak shut down the Internet connection on Jan. 28. At that point, she ran through a list of names and families who were still living in the country, hoping they were safe.

"As things started escalating, as prisoners started to break out...it became something that the entire surrounding area [of Cairo] had to worry about," said Smith. Joyce traveled to Ghana, Rwanda and Uganda for mission trips through her church and hospital. She also visited her sister who lived in Kenya for two years.

Because Joyce was directly enrolled in the American University of Cairo, Felix Wang, the Director of Study Abroad at the university, allowed Joyce and other students to make their own decision whether or not to leave the country. "Based on their decision, we'll provide the necessary support to help them out," said Wang.

Because Joyce decided to return, she worked closely with her advisors to schedule a manageable course load for the remainder of the semester.

"Transitioning back into school has not been easy," said Joyce. She hadn't been enrolled in classes since early December, so getting back into school mode on Feb. 7 was a challenge. Depending on the situation next spring, Joyce said she hoped to return to Egypt to complete her minor in Middle Eastern communities and migrations.

"I've been praying a lot myself and that's really been helping me get through a lot," said Joyce.

Upon the arrival of protestors, police release tear gas and rubber bullets into the crowds. The protestors, however, refused to leave and eventually President Hosni Mubarak agreed to step down. (meghann joyce)
Demonstrators begin to fill the streets of Cairo, Egypt around January 25. The demonstrators were responding to civil rights violations and corruption by President Hosni Mubarak and his government. photo courtesy (meghann joyce)

Haley Smith’s high school graduation comes to an end in front of the Giza Pyramids. Smith attended the Cairo American College for two years before coming to the University in 2007. photo courtesy (meghann joyce)

Visitors rest in front of the Giza Pyramids in the Giza Necropolis. It is the oldest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one to remain largely intact. photo courtesy (meghann joyce)
Untitled
Mikaela Steinwedell

Festival of Lights
Kelly Mattran

A Slice of Heaven
Katherine Dolan
the bluestone's student-submitted photo contest
Orientation
Michelle Franks

Untitled
Mikaela Steinwedell
Campus of Contrasts
Jillian Regan

Brighten the Lights of Madison
Kelsey Loy
Untitled
Mikaela Steinwedell

“Glow” Green
Kelsey Loy
academics
college of arts and letters
156 archaeology lab

158 eng 496:  
creative writing about food

160 faculty profile: ryan parkhurst

162 smad 409:  
electronic news gathering and production
When senior Emily Samulski signed up for a historical archaeology class last year, she had no idea the impact it would have on her college career.

A history major, Samulski explained that the class “started out as an elective… the class was a cross reference between the archaeology and history departments. I took it through the history side, but I really liked the [field work].” Samulski enjoyed it so much, in fact, that when she was offered a position in the archaeology lab, she enthusiastically accepted.

“My lab class is an internship,” said Samulski. “It’s an independent study and I signed up to work with Dr. Clarence Geier, who was also my professor for my first historical archaeology class.”

Archaeology, a concentration within the anthropology department, was a lot more than just digging in the dirt.

“There are multiple phases,” said Samulski. “We’re not always excavating… sometimes our job is just to go across the field with a metal detector to make sure there’s nothing in the top layer. Other times we’re surveying or drawing maps. It’s an intense process.”

This process was so intense that it required hours far outside the regular class time.

“It’s about an eight-hour day,” said Samulski. “We get in a van at 7 a.m. for an hour-long ride to the site and work from 8 to 3 and drive back afterward.”

While at the site, the students got the chance to work with many other people who shared their love of archaeology.

“There’s a professional crew and a part-time crew made up of JMU graduates and other people who have degrees in archaeology,” said Samulski.

The students, however, were not the only ones benefitting from the work the lab was doing.

“The JMU archaeology lab is hired out by outside companies to do excavations and site reconnaissance,” said Samulski. “We have multiple projects we’re working on… It’s a Civil War battlefield and the company wants the artifacts to be taken out.”

And despite all the preparatory work it required, Samulski was quick to admit that taking out the artifacts was easily her favorite part.

“It’s the stereotypical image of an archaeologist,” she said. “But the digging is the most rewarding.”
Joni Carnes
English

Emily Correa
Media Arts and Design

Christine Crossman
Justice Studies

Kelley Curry
International Affairs

Rachel Decolli
International Affairs

Ashley Galloway
Sociology

Derrick Gonzalo
History

Julia Holland
Communication Studies

Heavenly Hunter
Communication Studies
Eng 496: Creative Writing About Food

by Kaleigh Somers (writer)

ince it's not abstract and everybody can relate to food in one way, I figured it would be a really great way to bring a community of student writers together around a focused subject,” said Erica Bleeg, a professor in the English department. Bleeg taught a special topics class entitled “About Food: A Creative Nonfiction Workshop,” offered both semesters.

Bleeg had been passionate about food since 1997 when she traveled to Benin, a small country in Africa, with the Peace Corps. For two years, the nearest grocery store was more than 220 kilometers away. There, she developed a deeper appreciation for food available only during certain seasons, such as mangoes.

“Food is really a metaphor for so many other things, like how one is fed, what types of things one eats growing up,” said Bleeg.

Bleeg divided the class into two parts: reading food memoirs or stories where the author had restaurant experience, and food ethics and production in the United States. She chose to start with what was familiar and move to the bigger picture, understanding the origins of food.

Senior Katie Thisdell took the course during the spring 2011 semester. Having studied abroad in Ireland with Bleeg the previous summer, Thisdell realized Bleeg's passion for good writing and took the class to improve her own writing.

She was equally passionate about food.

“I cook food all the time. I like reading about food, I like writing about food. So obviously it was a natural fit,” said Thisdell.

Thisdell liked the class' laidback atmosphere. Students read selections by David Sedaris, Daniel Patterson, Jonathan Safran Foer and others, reflecting on them from personal experience.

Students also wrote a brief food memoir of their own, which they discussed in workshop groups. Bleeg began teaching the course in the spring of 2010. Her greatest joy has been in hearing students discuss not only their favorite foods, but also those foods they hated eating growing up.

“Whether it’s a happy food memory or one that has marked the student in some way, nevertheless it shows that one is alive, which is a wonderful thing,” said Bleeg.

Senior Aaren Cecere pours some hot sauce on her buffalo wing. In ENG 496, students wrote pieces about their favorite foods.

Senior Matthew Johnson cuts into banana bread brought in by a class member. Students in ENG 496 often wrote about their relationship with food.
Kathryn Jenkins
English
Matthew Johnson
Media Arts and Design
Allison Killam
Media Arts and Design
Daniel Lampe
Political Science
Kimberly Lofgren
Media Arts and Design
Elizabeth Maddox
Media Arts and Design
Marc McCann
English
Allison O'Boyle
Media Arts and Design
Bennett Resnik
Political Science

Academics} 159
In the fall semester of 2009, Professor Ryan Parkhurst brought video journalism to the School of Media Arts and Design (SMAD) by creating the SMAD 309 class.

The class used high-end High Definition (HD) cameras to produce and broadcast segments with visuals in a fashion most similar to news broadcasting. His particular interest in video journalism began in a small television studio in Binghamton, NY. Since his start in the broadcasting world, Parkhurst has created a unique class at the university to spread his passion to others.

"For a newspaper article, you need to tell a story for one sense: sight. A broadcast news story is meant for the ears, the eyes; it's two senses. Therefore, you need both the visual and the script," said Parkhurst.

For the first four weeks, he focused on getting the students up to speed with the technology and taught them how to write in broadcast style, which is more conversational than normal news writing. Then, the students put their skills to use.

"SMAD 309 takes public speaking to a different level to get students thinking like a news reporter would and to make them feel more comfortable in front of a camera," said Parkhurst.

A large portion of the course dealt with what Parkhurst called "live lab." This gave students the opportunity to practice the skills they had learned and report on real life events in front of a green screen. Students completed five or six of these projects, each a minute to a minute and a half. The preparation, interviews and post-production (editing) alone took about one week per project.

Parkhurst was proud to report that students had access to Sony Z1U video cameras, shooting in 1080 pHD, the best quality video one can shoot with. Students also had access to the Harrison hall computer labs to edit their projects. Each computer in these labs was equipped with a video editing software known as Final Cut Pro.

According to Parkhurst, there was no exact equation to a "good video journalism story." Two key components included a visually stimulating and character-driven presentation. However, there were numerous other factors to be considered such as editing, story line and delivery.

"It's a craft. It's not something you're automatically good at; it's something you have to work at," said Parkhurst.
MAD 409 allowed students to gain experience in news broadcasting. Each week, students in the class worked together to develop a newscast. The students were responsible for finding their own stories, writing, filming, editing and creating the final newscast. However, despite the intensity of the class' weekly demands, the students who took the class all believed it was a worthwhile experience.

“It was the best class I’ve taken in college by far,” said senior Erin Shellenberger. “It was the hardest class I’ve ever taken, but it was one of those classes where you thought, I’m actually going to be doing this when I graduate.”

For many students, taking the class helped them decide what type of career they hoped to pursue after graduation.

“After taking the class, I learned that I probably want to go into graphic design, but it’s still going to be useful because having multimedia experience is so important right now,” said senior Ariana Witt. “If someone wants me to do a video for them, I can.”

For others, SMAD 409 served as a way to enhance skills they had previously learned, because instead of learning about techniques from a textbook, students were required to use them on a regular basis.

“It was a good way to utilize what we learn through video production and editing,” said senior Caitlin Crumpton.

Students from the class agreed that the challenges of work overload, and the fast paced environment in which they worked, taught them valuable skills that they can take to any job in the future.

“It taught us how to work in a fast paced environment, something that I think all students, regardless of their major can benefit from,” said senior Chelsea Bratis. “Looking back on the semester, it is one of those experiences that will forward me and help me in future endeavors. It was overcoming challenges everyday that made it seem like a real job.”
Computer stations line a room transformed into a production studio. These rooms helped students develop their weekly newscasts.

State-of-the-art production equipment allowed students to have an experience similar to what they may work with after graduation. This class also helped students realize what they wanted to do after college.

photo by (ashley creech)
166 mgt 472: venture creation
ventures. (MGT 472) was a unique undergraduate entrepreneur class because it was open to non-business majors and because experienced business professionals advised the students on their business plans throughout the semester.

In order to get into the competitive class, students had to fill out an application that questioned both their personality and their interests. Carol Hamilton, who had been teaching the class since 2005, said that the applications themselves weeded out students who were not serious about the class.

"[The class] is not for everybody—it’s for the [students] who want to be entrepreneurs," said Hamilton.

While the class was geared mostly toward seniors, a few sophomores had the opportunity to take the class early, with special permission from Hamilton.

“They said they were starting their business in August, whether they took the class or not,” said Hamilton, “so I said, ‘I want you [in my class]!’”

The class was split into teams of three or four members during the first week, and each group was assigned a lead entrepreneur with a business idea for the team to develop throughout the semester.

“Most of the time, the College of Business majors are used to less room for innovation and creativity, so the non-business students bring in more creative ideas—but that isn’t always true,” said senior Tamara Kvaratskhelia.

Kvaratskhelia was an international student from the Republic of Georgia. Her business plan was for a vegan restaurant in her home country for the predominately Orthodox Christian population that lives there. She was paired with a dietetics major and a history major to help her with her business. Throughout the semester she received help from a seasoned entrepreneur and a master of accounting student who will act as a CPA.

Seniors Michael Daley and Andrew Sloan used Venture Creations to further develop a business they started in MGT 372, Entrepreneurship.

“[The class offers] a wide availability of resources [and] access to students with different areas of expertise,” said Daley. He added that, through the class, he was “learning how to network.”

Daley and Sloan were teamed up with senior Matthew Lockley, an industrial design major who brought his knowledge of design techniques to the business.

At the end of the course, the business plans competed for up to $1,500 to help them start their businesses. Alumni business professionals and investors judged their business plans and chose the teams with the most viable plans to win cash prizes.

Seniors and business majors Andrew Sloan and Michael Daley diligently work on their business plan for MGT 472 with Industrial design senior Matthew Lockley. The class was open to non-business majors who wanted more experience in business and leadership before graduating. 

by julia cramer (writer)
Aisha Alami
Hospitality and Tourism

Lauren Appleton
Marketing

Patricia Bellew
Quantitative

Allison Everly
Finance

Lauren Hartnett
Marketing

Mark Isaacson
Accounting

Allison Jerram
Finance

Michael Keith
Hospitality Management
Nhi Nguyen
Marketing

Michael Noto
Computer Information System

Emily Power
Marketing

Julianne Rose
Finance

Andrew Sloan
Management

Huy Vo
Marketing
college of education
172 exed 200:
  nature/ ISS disabilities

174 educ 381:
  field experience in ESL
EXED 200, or Foundations of Exceptional Education, provided future teachers with a glimpse of what it’s like to work with and teach people and students with learning and physical disabilities. Required for those seeking to teach Special Education, EXED 200 brought future teachers together to establish a foundation of knowledge needed to teach others.

"EXED 200 is a requirement for my major but it is also offered as an elective," said senior Mandy Moomaw. "It is a very general and basic overview on the population of individuals with different types of disabilities."

Taught by Mary Slade, EXED 200 became increasingly popular and proved difficult to register for each semester.

"My class was definitely small and interactive," said Moomaw. "A lot of the classes now, though are large, and have populations of 80-100 in a class and are lecture style."

Not only did the course introduce students to the idea of teaching others in exceptional education, it also brought students and teachers together through a common interest in education.

"My favorite part of the course was finally meeting other people interested in my major," said Moomaw. "I am an IDLS/K-12 Special Education teaching student, and my area of teaching is really not all that popular, but it is in very high demand. I took away from the course a great patience and understanding for the population of people and students with disabilities."

A popular teacher among her students, Slade provided future teachers with a sense of what it’s like to work with students with disabilities and advised students progressing through the College of Education program.

"I adored my teacher, Dr. Mary Slade," said Moomaw. "She is actually my adviser now and I consider her a mentor and a great friend."

Required for the K-12 Special Education Teaching Licensure Program, EXED 200 took a look at people with different physical or learning disabilities and provided a basis for exceptional education practice.
One student's used textbook sits atop a stack of notebooks, awaiting use for the next class discussion. Although the class was a requirement for many Special Education majors, some students chose the class as an elective to learn more about individuals with disabilities.

photo by (Beth Principi)

Education majors junior Sam Quesenberry and senior Jackie Roth contemplate and attempt to solve one of the class' daily case studies. The class was small in size, which contributed to an intimate learning environment.

photo by (Beth Principi)
The course, formally titled Field Experience in English-Second-Language (ESL), provided education majors with the opportunity to work with local school systems in teaching English to both children and, if desired, their parents.

“We send students to all the districts that JMU works with,” said Bosch. “Harrisonburg is one of the best places because it is so diverse.”

But the local school systems were not the only ones reaping the benefits of this course.

“Some of our students also do practicum at the Career Development Academy (CDA) because the CDA offers ESL classes to adults, but they also have programs for the little ones while their parents are in class,” said Bosch.

The course was rigorous and included both a lecture component, familiarizing students with different methods of teaching English and fieldwork that culminated in a 60-minute lesson that served as the students’ final exam.

Made up of both elementary and secondary education majors, Bosch explained that one of her favorite parts of the course was the opportunity students were given to expand their comfort zone by switching the age group they focused on teaching.

“For some of the students, that has been a challenge,” said Bosch. “But on the other hand, there are some that realize the kids [in the other age group] are not as terrible as they thought they were going to be. It’s good to see them learning something too.”
Carmen Bosch gathers a crowd of Harrisonburg locals ready to study and listen to her pupils teach them English as a second language. The class was a great opportunity for students to engage in an active atmosphere and learn skills in teaching a diverse audience.

Christina Johnson
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

Rosemary Skipton
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

Meaghan Smith
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies

Kristen Struble
Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies
college of integrated science and technology
178  kin 152:

lifeguarding
IN 152, or Lifesaving/Lifeguarding, helped students develop valuable skills that could be used in their own jobs. For some students, taking the class was a convenient way to improve skills needed for their work. "I was previously a certified lifeguard and I needed to get re-certified in order to work at my town pool," said senior Sara Ilenko.

The class consisted of two types of learning environments. The wet classroom, a classroom off the pool deck area, gave the students the opportunity to learn more about different lifesaving techniques by reading from books and watching technical videos. In addition to the classroom setting, students were able to practice various lifesaving techniques that they had learned about, as well as completing the practical tasks needed in order to become a lifeguard.

"My favorite part of the class was the days we were in the water," said graduate Julianne Wiggins. "Being a lifeguard means being professional and always alert, but when you get to practice skills in the water with other students, it can be fun and educational."

For most students, the practice that they got in the water was the most valuable part of the course.

"My favorite part of the class is the valuable life lessons we are learning in regards to lifeguarding and water safety," said Ilenko. "These skills may come in handy one day and are definitely great to have in life."

Students also found that the skills stressed in the class, such as consistently being professional and using effective communication, would be able to help them in their future careers.

"All of these skills will help me as an occupational therapist because I will be part of a medical team, interact with many people and their families, and demonstrate leadership qualities as a professional," said Wiggins.

Overall, most students that took the class agreed that they would recommend it to anyone that was considering taking it, not only due to their personal enjoyment of the class, but for the valuable skills and experiences that they gained.

"KIN 152 can help develop new skills or refine old skills in a fun and interactive environment," said Wiggins.

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Learning how to save a life, junior Robert Lilly pumps air into the dummy. This was one of the lifesaving techniques students learned in KIN 152. photo by (Danielle Strickler)
During class, senior Erin Shellenberger practices a lifesaving technique on a baby dummy. KIN 152 prepared students for dire situations.

Sophomore Ryan Harrison pauses to assess the situation before administering aid. KIN 152 taught students the proper steps to take during emergencies.

Senior Andrew Roffee reviews the reading before practicing lifesaving techniques. KIN 152 offered students a unique opportunity to learn these important skills.

Junior Joshua Berndt performs resuscitation breaths on a baby dummy during a lesson in KIN 152. These breaths were essential in performing CPR.
Jeffrey Alexander
Kinesiology

Jenna Baker
Nursing

Ashton Burton
Health Sciences

Cody Clifton
Kinesiology

Marian Creasy
Health Sciences

Christina Deitch
Integrated Science and Technology

Tami Delorenzo
Health Sciences

Alexandra Golkin
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Christopher Holt
Computer Science
Emily Irvin
Health Sciences

Justin Johnson
Health Sciences

Stephanie Kissam
Social Work

Sarah Lurie
Kinesiology

Lucy Madden
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Andrew Malone
Dietetics

Anjuli Mathews
Health Sciences

Lenise Mazyck
Social Work

Karissa Milligan
Health Sciences
Britney Morant
Dietetics

Shannon O'Donnell
Health Sciences

Lindsey Ott
Health Sciences

Amelia Pritchyk
Psychology

Victoria Rama
Kinesiology

Jillian Regan
Health Sciences

Christine Schmidt
Psychology

Courtney Scott
Health Sciences

Margaret Slocum
Health Sciences
186 bio 366: plants and environment

189 faculty profile: steven keffer

190 bio 420: parisatology lab
bio 366: plants and environment

by sarah lockwood (writer)

There, we learn how chocolate is made from raw ingredients like cocoa nibs and the components that are in it and how to handle it.

In addition to plant applications and chemistry, students learned "how nature has modified plants and how humans have modified plants," said Renfroe.

They also learned sources of other items, such as table sugar. "I get students to start looking at labels and thinking about what they're eating," said Renfroe.

The class also took a trip downtown to Cally's where the microbrewery master explained the malting process, taking the students from the plant grains to the finished beer product.

Renfroe's favorite part about teaching the class was observing the evolution of their awareness. "Students come to realize that the things they've been putting in their mouth and the fibers that they're wearing and the medicines that they're taking are all derived from natural resources," said Renfroe.

He enjoyed "seeing them develop an appreciation for plants they didn't have before taking the course."
Mixing items in test tubes allowed students to see how different materials mixed with certain plant matters. The class learned certain plants were in nearly every type of food. 

Soaps made of plant matter show students how plants are used in different economic settings. The class also went to Cally's restaurant to learn how beer was brewed.

In BIO 364, Dr. Michael Renfroe shows off soaps his class made from plants. In addition to soap, the class also made chocolate and tie dye from plant matter.

photo by (gareth hermann)
Erika Christian  
Biology

Yuri Coronado Prieto  
Biology

Sean Francis  
Biology

Kathryn Hilts  
Mathematics

Ryan Hollander  
Biology

Rachel Kozlowski  
Mathematics

Brittnie Sykes  
Mathematics

Carol Vera  
Biology

Brock Wallace  
Biology
faculty profile: steven keffer

biology professor Steven Keffer was a problem-solver, his dedication and passion for human beings and insects led to researching the world around him. His big question over the last few years was why people behave the way they do—why anxiety levels have skyrocketed and how to change that.

During his most recent research, Keffer collaborated with Gregg Henriques and Craig Abrahamson, both professors in the psychology department.

Abrahamson described Keffer as a hard worker, who was able to think outside the box to solve problems.

“When he doesn’t know something, he admits it,” said Abrahamson. “And he’s darn good in the classroom, too.”

Keffer and his colleagues selected voluntary participants to place a pulse monitor on their finger, manipulating it to bring levels down. They randomly assigned participants to the control group or experimental group for four weeks. Participants switched groups halfway through the experiment. They concluded the method was cheap and effective.

Besides this, Keffer taught an eight-week course at Rockingham Memorial Hospital and a seven-week course at the university on mindfulness, a stress-reduction technique where people focused on the present moment without making any judgments—good or bad.

Keffer’s honors level course, “Evolution, Human Nature and Morality,” helped him understand human nature that constrains our behavior.

“Most of our stressors in modern life aren’t lions. They’re social and they’re psychological. And there are so many of them that for some people—actually very many people—they end up in a state of chronic stress,” said Keffer.

Keffer’s third research area focused on insect etymology—classifying insects—in order to determine an insect’s evolution. He taught a course specifically on the different species of spiders during the spring semester.

He focused his research on the male genitalia of water scorpions, because that’s the sole method of distinguishing different species. Once unraveled, the genitalia produced an intricate system of interconnected vertebrae that looked different for each species.

“It’s not going to change the course of human events, but it’s fascinating in its own way, in terms of evolutionary biology, to look at the complexity of these structures,” said Keffer. “They can be used to reconstruct history. History that may go back hundreds of millions of years.”

Taking a break from grading and class preparation, Dr. Steven Keffer relaxes in his Burruss Hall office. As an associate professor of biology, Keffer taught a diverse range of classes—from beginning subjects in organisms to more advanced topics in alternative medicine and health care.

Dr. Steven Keffer personalizes his office door with posters and quotations. Keffer’s expert research in the field and impressive publications awarded him a position as Associate Professor of Biology. photo by (sun shim)

Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Steven Keffer takes a break from grading and class preparation to relax in his second-floor Burruss office. Keffer’s interests lay in human behaviors, such as stress reduction and the evolution of social behaviors.

photo by (sun shim)
bio 420: parasitology lab

by erica traveline (writer)

Burruss Hall was a popular place for almost 800 undergraduate students looking to further their knowledge of biology. Only about 15 students out of the hundreds enrolled in the major were able to enroll in the Medical Parasitology Lab during the fall semester.

While most students would have cringed at even the thought of an organism living and feeding on or in an organism of another species, students enrolled in this lab were fully aware that they would be completing hands on lab work with these types of parasites.

"I thought it was really cool," said senior Analee Olavson. "You learn to identify parasites that are in animals or humans. And I got to keep the tape worm I got out of my mouth."

As a whole, this class helped introduce students to the techniques and procedures currently being used in the clinical and research studies of parasites and parasitism.

In terms of the laboratory aspect of the class, according to the university's undergraduate catalog, it was designed to "focus on diagnostic methods and the use of animal models that illustrate parasitic life cycles, including their infectious stages and modes of transmission."

Students were admitted into this laboratory class after they had completed the corresponding lecture coursework on the study and medical implications of parasites that infect humans. Thus, this lab experience gave students a chance to get their hands dirty and apply what they had learned from textbook style work to the most current areas of the medical parasitology field.

Chris Lantz, associate professor of biology, was the instructor for the class. His own personal research interests included immunology and parasitology, and he was able to bring his own personal knowledge and insight into the laboratory setting.

The class gave students enough insight to find a job upon completion of the course.

"I could probably get a job at a veterinarian clinic, and identify dog and cat parasites," said Olavson.

Students in Bio 420 interact with Roundworm, also known as Ascaris Lumbricoides. However, students had to complete the lecture coursework before getting their hands dirty.

photo courtesy (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
Tapeworms like the one pictured can infect one's digestive tract by being consumed in under cooked foods. Students in Bio 420 injected rats with these tapeworms to observe their growth. 

photo courtesy (micrographia.com)

Students examine the posterior end of an adult whipworm, taken during a colonoscopy. The whipworm's scientific name is Trichuris trichiura. photo courtesy (duke university medical center)
college of visual and performing arts
194 art 270: printmaking - screenprint

197 faculty profile: rich hilliard

198 art 240: metal & jewelry

200 art 392: topics in art - (re)shaping space
art 270: printmaking-screenprint

by julia cramer [writer]

The artist had gone through 10 steps for every color they wanted to appear on their prints. In the introductory course, the artist was required to make at least 25 copies of their image, which all together made up an edition.

"We are graded on how well the image is registered, or [how well each color] is lined up on the final image," said Clarke.

The class was time consuming and at the introductory level, after one edition of 25 prints, an artist could end up with only five perfect final prints. At the advanced level, the artists turned in five critiques that were graded on a 10-point scale that rated the technique, quality of innovation, and how well the print was registered.

"The biggest difference with this class [compared to other 2D art classes] is it requires a lot of planning. You have to come up with an image and then deconstruct it—with painting you can paint right over something you don't like," said Piccininni.

More recently, screen printing has appealed to more graphic design art majors, who were allowed to use digital pictures they printed off the computer as a basis for their printing projects. Piccininni used screen printing to complement children's stories she had written.

"After graduation, I hope to get a job in the publishing industry as a copy editor and work my way into a creative department," said Piccininni.

Despite the challenge of getting into the class, Piccininni recommended the class to anyone interested.

"You should totally do it," said Piccininni. "Go to Jack [McCaslin] and get an override, or do it in the summer. Other than that Jack is a great teacher, and it's just fun being here—no other class gives you as much freedom. This is a class where you can really explore your own aesthetic. It's your time when you're in this room."

Pick ing out ink colors, senior Carrie Waggoner prepares to begin her project in her screen printing class. A contemporary art medium, screenprinting, was popularized by Andy Warhol's prints and interest in T-shirt printing.

photo by {parvina mamatova}
Showing her Jersey Shore inspired print, senior Alex Hill lines up her image using registration marks. While the process of screen-printing was tedious, students completed the class satisfied and inspired.

photo by Parvina Mamatova

Seniors Theresa Jeanne and Callie McLean combine gesso with ink to get the desired color. Each time new ink was used, the screen had to be prepared by coating it with emulsion and exposing it to light.

photo by Parvina Mamatova

Preparing to put a new color on their screen, seniors Alex Hill and Aimee Mahler begin their print. Students praised professor Jack McCaslin on his work by filling the class every semester it was offered.

photo by Parvina Mamatova
Alicia Carroll
Studio Art

Kristi Clemons
Studio Art

Danielle Haas
Studio Art

Kristin Joseph
Studio Art

Not an unusual artifact for Graphic Designer Richard Hilliard's office, a Storm Trooper stands guard over a file cabinet while Batman looks on menacingly from the wall. Upon first entering Hilliard's office, new advisees were often taken by surprise.

photo by (parvina mamatova)

Rich Hilliard's collection of action figures and posters decorate his office in Duke Hall. A lover of all things "super," Hilliard's collection of heroes, villains, and unusual creatures perfectly captured his personality.

photo by (parvina mamatova)
Graphic Design professor Richard Hilliard casually smiles from within his lair of superheroes, villains and unusual creatures. Hilliard’s office perfectly paralleled his own always lively, always entertaining teaching style. 

A pterodactyl soars above Richard Hilliard’s work space as a bright red T-rex and storm trooper collection stand guard from below. A perfect photo-op for an I Spy book. Hilliard’s entertaining office perfectly reflected his own energetic attitude.

photo by (parvina mamatova)
art 240: metal and jewelry

by sarah lockwood (writer)

As a graphic designer turned metalsmith, Mark Rooker valued the importance of working with his hands. That’s why ART 240: Metal and Jewelry, a course he began teaching in 2001, was “all doing based.”

The course involved three projects in piercing, rings and flatware. The students also completed a series of exercises to familiarize themselves with the techniques since most began with little tool experience.

“We really have to start from scratch,” said Rooker. “They stopped teaching metalsmith in high school a long time ago, so most people don’t have any experience with the tools.”

Even those who had experience with drill presses and cordless drills had to get familiar with them on a much smaller scale.

This hands-on aspect was one of the main reasons Rooker turned to metalwork.

“For me, part of the charm of the endeavor is not just intellectual,” he said. “It’s not just problem solving, it’s the physicality of the work. You get to think with your hands as well as your mind.”

In addition to teaching the students to use their hands, Rooker had other motives.

“You teach them the techniques in order for them to be able to accomplish the projects, but you’re really using all of that to teach them to be able to take a sense of pride in their work,” he said.

Rooker hoped to instill a sense of craftsmanship in his students and learn something from the jeweler’s perspective.

“Part of the agenda is to open up their thinking about adornment,” said Rooker. “To help them recognize all the different ways that we use, not only jewelry, but things like tattoos, or clothing to craft the image of ourselves that we present to the world.”

In the end, Rooker hoped that his students would “look at the world differently once they’re done with the class. That they start to notice the jewelry people wear, that they start to notice when somebody has something on that pushes the boundaries and learn to appreciate that.”

Junior Brittany Barbou works to shape a piece of wire. An objective of the class was appreciation of what goes into making a piece of jewelry, or any art for that matter. Photo by (danniele strickler)
Craftsmanship proves important in ART 240: Metal and Jewelry. Students had to perfect each part of their project in order for the final results to be as they wanted.

photo by {dannielle strickler}

Professor Mark Rooker, a graphic designer turned metal smith, began teaching ART 240: Metal and Jewelry in 2001. Rooker began the class for the hands-on experience.

photo by {dannielle strickler}

Sanding down a piece of metal, sophomore Natalie Kress works on one piece of her project. Tasks such as this helped teach the proper techniques to inexperienced students.

photo by {dannielle strickler}
The class, which was taught by Greg Stewart, worked with Michael Singer, a sustainable designer and resident scholar to the university, to create an engaging space.

"Right now it's just this flat plane that has no inviting spaces in it," said senior Garrett Stern. "I personally want it to be an instructive space and a location rather than just a place you pass through."

First, the students worked on projects to develop ideas on what a garden was and what it meant to be a sculpture garden specifically. There were many ideas for what to include in the final product, including a water feature and a native plant garden. These ideas were further developed by a wide variety of academic disciplines.

"I think it's good to have cross-disciplinary classes," said Stern, describing what different majors brought to the thought process. "An ISAT major's familiar with all of the technology application and then anthropology is cultural and people and how to get people involved, so that's where I come in."

Stern anticipated the difficulty of getting administrative approval.

"I think balancing the university's idea of what they think it should be with artistic interpretation of what we want it to be is going to be the biggest challenge," said Stern.

The university planned to pay for paving to match the quad, for example, while Stern hoped to be able to reuse things like railroad ties.

This inclination to repurpose recycled materials for the design was due in part to the guidance of Singer.

"I really wanted to work with Michael Singer because he does a lot of environmental design that I really respect," said Stern.

In addition to the appeal of working with Singer, Stern looked forward to the satisfaction of the final product and was glad to be "part of a team that builds a lasting impression on campus."

Students study materials such as railroad rails and pikes to gather ideas. Designer Michael Singer instigated these investigations of reusable, environmentally friendly materials.

A view through an abandoned metal pipe might seem trivial to passersby, but to the Art 392 students, it represented just another material to investigate. The class benefited from a host of different majors; for instance, while art majors may have provided useful information on potential materials, ISAT majors understood the technical side.
A peek into a run-down and abandoned local space shows what Duke Hall might resemble during renovations. Architects and university officials planned to begin the renovations for Duke Hall over the summer.

photo by Leslie Haase

As part of their (Re)Shaping Space class, students of various majors take a mini-field trip to study space and get ideas for remodeling the Duke Sculpture Garden. Despite the class' title, ISAT and anthropology majors signed up for the 392 class along with art and interior design majors.

photo by Leslie Haase

Emily Lordahl
Studio Art

Leah Lucas
Studio Art

Parvina Mamatova
Studio Art

Callie McLean
Studio Art

Susy Moon
Studio Art

Starlet Smith
Music

Academics 201
underclassmen
205 is 490:
leadership process in community

206 fyi:
first year involvement
is 490: leadership process in community

by sarah lockwood

Independent Study 490 was a misnomer. Hardly independent, students in the course practiced leadership skills in small-group dynamics while learning combatives, skiing, boarding, tubing, combat water survival, range shooting, paintballing and repelling.

Master Sergeant Dennis Kline taught the course, which was housed under military science, but not necessarily used to recruit ROTC students. IS 490 was geared toward underclassmen, but open to all students.

“We have all kinds of academic majors,” said Kline. “We have different levels of physical fitness, different levels of desire. It’s a wide open class.”

Kline helped reorganize the course, which was completely lecture based when he began working with it in 2002.

“The objective is to instill leadership and generally kids this age... haven’t had a lot of experience in leadership,” said Kline.

Each student had to lead a group of five or six peers during one of the challenge events. These took place at a range of locations, including the National Guard Armory, Massanutten Ski Resort and Bridgewater College Pool.

In addition to gaining leadership experience, some students had to face their fears.

“Some people might not be able to swim. So we have to work with that,” said Kline. “When we do repelling, some of ’em are afraid of heights. When we do caving, some of ’em are claustrophobic.”

Junior Catherine Elsby, who took the class in the fall, had this challenge during repelling.

“I actually started to cry,” she said, describing a master sergeant that reassured her during their decent.

Kline said his favorite part of teaching the course was “watching somebody achieve something they didn’t think they could do.”

Despite the fears they had to face, many of the activities provided valuable skills.

“The survival swimming was a really cool thing,” said Elsby. “They taught us how to take our jeans off in the water and turn them into a flotation device. Since I live on an island and I’m always out on the water, that’s good to know.”

There was a classroom element to the course as well. The students wrote a paper on leadership and completed a self-evaluation after relinquishing their leadership position. They also wrote papers analyzing a leader from a battle as well as leadership characteristics in a movie character.

Seniors Robert Snow and Sadeq Khan practice proper techniques in the classroom before putting their knowledge and skills to use in one of the class’ off-campus “challenge events.” The Independent Study 490 class was open to all majors who wanted to gain experience in leadership.

photo by (danielle strickler)
Jocelyn Allen
Kristina Apwisch
Lauren Armstrong
Mary Becker
Kelsey Blanchard
Laura Burch
Amanda Caskey
Annunciata Corey
Andrew Darnell
Have you ever wondered where all the supplies for the programs in your dorm came from? Have you ever asked yourself where the ideas for these programs came from?

The answer to these questions was A-Section of Huffman Hall: the First Year Involvement (FYI) Center. Program adviser, (PA) junior Kathryn Heck, described FYI as a resource for all the Resident Advisors (RAs) and Community Activities Boards (CABs) to get materials, as well as a writing center geared toward helping freshmen who are unsure of how to write in different styles.

FYI had an array of materials from markers and paints to balloons and poster boards. Its purpose was to provide RAs and CABs with the necessary facilities to make advertisements, bulletin boards and program materials throughout the year. They were able to use the computers and printer at any time, but only for their programs and bulletin boards.

“It’s a really happy environment that reduces the stress of programs and allows for some creativity,” said Heck.

The six PAs took turns working throughout the week to run the center. FYI was open every day except for Saturday. The PAs were each assigned four or five halls to advise and are responsible for making program suggestions as well as attending programs in the halls.

The writing center of FYI was open to all students either by appointment or walk-in, however it was mostly advertised to freshmen.

“We get a lot of GWRIT papers,” said Heck.

FYI provided students with opportunities to not just further their creativity, but to improve their writing as well.
Daniel Dziuba
Caitlin Ellis
Alexandra Foundas
Kathleen French
Leslie Haase
Tiffany Hawkins
Andrew Hutchson
Leslie Johnson
Abby Lantzy
Britanie Latimer
Sarah Lockwood
Joshua Makely
Kevin McCall
Ryan Moneymaker
Luis Parada
Kyle Porpotage
Alyssa Richardson
Jasmyne Rogers
Meredith Rose
Cheyenne Shaffer
Aaron Story

Danielle Strickler
Chelsea Taylor
Elisa Tedona

Joshua Thompson
Aubrey Tuttle
Laura Wilkins
administration
212 office of the president

213 academic affairs

214 administration & finance

215 student affairs/
university planning
The university's revised mission statement reflected the core duties of the Office of the President. In addition to bridging the university constituency, building connections within the commonwealth, and facilitating new projects, satisfying the needs of students and faculty remained a top priority.

Through extensive planning and collaboration, the Office of the President was able to administer various changes throughout the university. New enforcements and programs regulated the alcohol culture students were all too familiar with, such as the introduction of alternative late night events on campus. Construction in Wayland Hall and the Biosciences Building commenced, as The Forbes Center for the Performing Arts opened to the public in the fall.

In addition, the administration received a vast amount of feedback in regard to the Quality Enhancement Plan. The QEP, which is required for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), encouraged participation and sought proposals from the university community to improve the institution and strengthen educational practices. With 76 submitted proposals, the true task was narrowing down the list of topics on which to elaborate.

"It's exciting to see such innovative spirit and broad grassroots participation amongst the JMU community. Such eagerness adds true value and merit to the university," said executive assistant Donna Harper. "We still have a lot of work to do in the meantime, and we hope to continue preserving the university's identity with all the new changes coming at us in the near future."

Our fifth president, Dr. Linwood H. Rose, has strongly represented and led our school since 1998. Through every praise-worthy, and some blame-worthy moments, Dr. Rose proudly stood by our school. photo courtesy (jmu photography services)
The Office of Academic Affairs saw several changes in administration and academic focus during the past year.

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs A. Jerry Benson was given the interim provost position after Douglas Brown retired in June after 36 years of involvement in academics at the university.

Benson's main goal was to further the improvements the department planned to make.

"Given that it's an interim position, one of the things I wanted to bring was continued stability and continuing to move forward," said Benson. "And I think we've done that very successfully."

One major activity throughout the year was a series of collaborative discussions about the "academic culture" at the university. These discussions involved all the divisions coming together to discuss how we convey our values and expectations for students and faculty.

"It's too easy for people to get off in their department and not see how things are working together," said Benson.

These discussions, which started in the fall and finished early in the spring semester, were then analyzed to discover major themes and concerns throughout the university.

One main theme was concern over first year students, particularly their ideas about what college is like versus the reality of classes, grades and managing free time.

The development of majors and programs, like the General Education program, was also a concern for Academic Affairs. Benson compared this to the steady hold on enrollment and how it reflected into the academics of the university.

"We are withholding on expansion and focusing on developing what we have," said Benson.

The year was also one focused on bringing art and science together to better understand our world. Academic Affairs' idea began with the freshmen DNA dance and culminated with a performance by the Liz Lermen Dance Exchange and a lecture by Francis Collins about the mysteries of the human genome.

According to Benson, art and science are not two separate worlds; they inform each other.

"We encourage students who don't usually think about art or science to think about it in a different way," said Benson.
Administration and Finance's main goal, was to provide students with excellent customer service. “We are constantly thinking of how to make things better for the students,” said Brian Charette, assistant vice president of human resources, training and performance. “Our goal is to make it not just a campus, but a home.”

Being the largest division at the university, Administration and Finance employed around 1,350 employees and oversaw several divisions—Athletics, Facilities Management, Dining Services, Public Safety, the post office and Parking Services.

One of the divisions on-going projects was expanding Bridgeforth Stadium. Once completed, the stadium would have an additional 10,000 seats. According to Charette, the stadium construction was on track to be completed by fall of 2011.

Also in the works were new recreational fields at the corner of Port Republic Road and Neff Avenue, a new science building located on the eastern side of campus and a complete renovation of Wayland Hall.

Charette heavily anticipated the renovations on Wayland Hall. According to Charette, the dorm would receive a Leed Platinum stewardship rating and would be environmentally sound.

“It will be an example of what a ‘green building’ should be,” said Charette.

Wayland’s completion date was the summer of 2011, just in time for residents to move in for the fall semester.

With each of these projects in the construction phases, money was always a concern. Charette said that the past three years had been three consecutive years of extremely strict budgets, however, the university consistently budgeted its money well.

“JMU has become famous at getting a lot out of a little amount of money,” said Charette.

Even with tight budgets and several projects in progress, helping students was still the main focus of the division.

“We serve and help others,” said Charette, “so they can be more effective in helping students.”
Throughout students' college careers they saw familiar buildings, took traditional classes and participated in customary events. Student Affairs and University Planning aimed to change those rituals.

Student Affairs and University Planning fulfilled their mission statement of "a community committed to preparing students to be educated and enlightened citizens who lead productive and meaningful lives" by emphasizing academic programs, community and infrastructure according to the department's website.

University Planning anticipated the creation of a wider variety of new courses, more academic support to students and enhanced admission criteria upon completion of their goals in 2012, as listed in the university's Master Plan. Goals regarding infrastructure related to funding and resources for campus expansion, involvement of the entire campus in planning and bettering the campus, especially in the aspects of attractiveness, safety and sustainability.

Completion of the first phase of Bridgeforth Stadium and the Forbes Center, the movement of Rockingham Memorial Hospital's patients from the Grace Street location, allowing the university to take full control, and the start of the construction of the Port Republic Road athletic fields solidified University Planning's ambitions.

In order to improve the community, the department advocated diversity, establishment of and participation in extracurricular activities, achieving national recognition and strengthening alumni relations.

"An extensive array of programs surround the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday every year, as has been the case since the program began in 1988. The March, the Speak-Out, the Candle-Lighting Ceremony were among the programs that the Center for Multicultural Student Services (CMSS) hosted and sponsored," said Assistant Vice President of Student Success Randy Mitchell.

Within SAUP, the Student Success branch strove to develop "more efficient, effective and engaged learners," according to Mitchell.

Projects from the branch included work surrounding the former RMH building, enhancing diversity in university programs, such as 1787, and developing ideas for a more welcoming campus.

SAUP hoped to develop environments committed to helping first year students, as well as encouraging students' healthy living choices by 2014. The department also wanted to increase service projects on campus, in Harrisonburg and globally for students.

Dr. Mark Warner takes a brief break from a long day in the Student Affairs and University Planning office. The Planning department of the office named numerous goals it wanted to accomplish by the 2012 school year. photo by (gareth hermann)
Jerry Benson
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Vice President for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Robert D. Reid
Dean
College of Business

David Brakke
Dean
College of Science and Mathematics

Joanne Carr
Senior Vice President for University Advancement

John Noftsinger
Vice President for Research and Public Service

Phillip Wishon
Dean
College of Education

George Sparks
Dean
College of Visual and Performing Arts
Mark Warner
Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and University Planning

Teresa Gonzalez
Vice Provost for Academic Program Support

Linda Cabe Halpern
Dean, University Studies

Ralph Alberico
Dean, Libraries and Educational Technologies

Charles King Jr.
Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

David Jeffrey
Dean, College of Arts and Letters

Sharon Lovell
Dean, College of Integrated Science and Technology

Ronald Carrier
Chancellor
organizations
<p>| 222-223 | Alpha Kappa Alpha / Alpha Kappa Delta Phi |
| 224-225 | Alpha Phi Alpha / American Medical Student Association |
| 226-227 | Alpha Phi Omega |
| 228-229 | Alpha Sigma Tau |
| 230-231 | Asian Student Union / Black Student Alliance |
| 232-233 | Chinese Student Association / Contemporary Gospel Singers |
| 234-235 | Delta Gamma / Delta Sigma Theta |
| 236-237 | Equestrian Club |
| 238-239 | Club Archery |
| 240-241 | Delta Tau Alpha / Into Hymn |
| 242-243 | Kappa Alpha Theta / Madison Marketing |
| 244-245 | Habitat for Humanity |
| 246-247 | Bluestone |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page-Range</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>248-249</td>
<td>Men's Water Polo / National Association for the Advanced of Colored People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250-251</td>
<td>Omicron Delta Kappa Society / Presbyterian Campus Ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>252-253</td>
<td>Sigma Sigma Sigma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>254-255</td>
<td>Club Ice Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>256-257</td>
<td>Saferides / Sigma Alpha Iota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>258-259</td>
<td>Sigma Gamma Rho / Sigma Kappa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>260-261</td>
<td>Kappa Pi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>262-263</td>
<td>Society of Human Resource Management / Students for Minority Outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>264-265</td>
<td>Tau Beta Sigma / Vietnamese Student Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>266-267</td>
<td>Phi Mu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>268-269</td>
<td>WXJM / Zeta Tau Alpha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270-271</td>
<td>Women's Water Polo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272-273</td>
<td>Student Ambassadors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 10 members of Alpha Kappa Alpha participated in programs such as Adopt-A-Highway, Mr. and Mrs. Enchantment, AKAerobics, AKAdemic Toolkit and Founders Day. The first black Greek sorority, AKA encouraged high scholastic and ethical standards, and promoted unity and friendship among college women.
As the only recognized Asian-American sorority on campus, the women of Alpha Kappa Delta Phi sought to promote sisterhood, scholarship, leadership, community service and Asian awareness. The sorority was founded in 2003 and raised money for its philanthropy, breast cancer awareness.
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was chartered at the university in 1979. The nine members aimed to promote "manly deeds, scholarship and love for all mankind." All males who met the academic and personal ideals of the fraternity were eligible for inclusion. The fraternity had the highest GPA of all National Panhellenic Council Fraternities.
Since its founding in 2008, the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) has been working with community organizations to enhance the leadership abilities and characteristics of future healthcare professionals. The AMSA worked with the Salvation Army, Rockingham Memorial Hospital and Our Community Place.
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Helping a resident of Bridgewater Retirement Community tie her shoes, three members of Alpha Phi Omega work toward their 30 hours of service per semester requirement. As well as visiting the community, the group also visited the Rockingham/Harrisonburg SPCA.

photo by [gareth hermann]

by allison killam [writer]

Alpha Phi Omega was a service fraternity at the university that was committed to making a difference. The fraternity participated in weekly projects, and required members to commit at least 30 hours of service a semester.

Junior Chelsea Merdich joined her sophomore year because she missed giving back.

“I did a lot of service in high school, I wanted to get involved with something on campus, but I wanted it to be more meaningful,” said Merdich.

Merdich made it a point to commit at least 3-4 hours of volunteer work a week. Her favorite service was visiting the Bridgewater Retirement Community every Sunday evening.

“It’s great sitting down and talking to all the ladies, they’ll tell you all these stories,” said Merdich.

She also explained that the residents enjoyed talking to the brothers of the fraternity, because they were a different crowd.

Another kind of crowd the fraternity visited was of the four-legged furry variety. The Rockingham/Harrisonburg SPCA was very grateful to Alpha Phi Omega. For the past 15 years, the fraternity had been visiting the animal shelter.

“They’re always needing more help, and the more often we go, they see our letters, and they’re always excited to see us,” said Merdich. “I try not to take a
A resident of Bridgewater Retirement Community attends an evening church service during an Alpha Phi Omega visit. The residents enjoyed talking to a younger crowd.

One of the different projects the fraternity participated in this past year was the Salvation Army, Special Olympics, Our Community Place, Mercy House, Silver Spring Elementary School, park and trail clean-ups, Adopt-A-Highway and Habitat for Humanity builds.

Each year, the fraternity went on a different alternative spring break trip. This year, they planned a trip to Florida to work with United Way. Transportation and accommodations were the responsibilities of individual brothers, which further showed their commitment to making a difference.

"The people I'm around all the time, everyone there is so unique, but we share the common ideals of service," said Merdich. "All of us working for a common goal, it's really rewarding."

The 75 brothers were looking to admit around 20 more students during the spring semester. Alpha Phi Omega was eager to accept anyone who believed in the importance of service in the community.

The fraternity's fellowship of principles came from part of the Boy Scouts of America Scout Oath: to develop Leadership, to promote Friendship and to provide Service to humanity.
with about 150 sisters representing the sorority of Alpha Sigma Tau (AST), there was always a sister there for them, something new to do and a chance to make a difference.

The chapter began in 1944 and continued to bring together sisters of all personalities and backgrounds. “I have grown so much from being in my sorority because of the way my personality fits in with all of my sisters’ personalities,” said president, junior, Alexandra Baxter. “I think we’re a very diverse group of girls and we all come from different places and personalities. I’m always finding out something different about them and I feel proud to have my sisters as a part of my life.”

When 48 new sisters pledged this past year, living in the AST house on campus proved beneficial in making connections with other sisters and getting to know one another. About 27 sisters lived in the house, including members of the executive board and new pledges.

“This is my third year living on campus and my second living in the house,” said Baxter. “Living in the house is a lot better than I thought it would be. Unlike the rest of my pledge class, I get to know the pledge classes below us even more. Living in the house is like having 27 closets; you can always borrow someone else’s clothes.”

While creating bonds and making lasting friendships, the sisters of AST raised more than $5,000 for their philanthropy, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). When a sister was diagnosed with diabetes last spring, the sorority changed their philanthropy from AIDS research to JDRF.

“We had a 5K this past November to raise money for JDRF,” said junior Lauren Hartman. “While there, a little girl who was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes came up to my friends and me and said ‘Thank you, this means so much to me.’ It was at that point that I realized I was doing something good. If I had not joined AST, I would have not been given the chance to make a difference and do something great for somebody else.”

Along with a 5K, AST also raised money through an all-you-can-eat cookout and a capture the flag tournament. The
before. sophomore Colleen Hammam.

sisters to come together as a family started producing new sororities' performances and seeing how it a spring carnival as well as a creative group of members for their executive board. The board continued to grow as a diverse chapter. AST voted in a more relatively new philanthropy, allowing the new exec board is placed for the past two years so it is all worth it in the end. The Greek Sing, in which they placed third last year and second the year fraternity men can compete in their very own pageant."

"My favorite event AST participates in is Greek Sing," said sophomore Colleen Hammam. "It is a lot of hard work but we have placed for the past two years so it is all worth it in the end. The best part is being able to watch your own performance and other sororities' performances and seeing how it all comes together."

Along with their own events, Alpha Sigma Tau participated in Greek Sing, in which they placed third last year and second the year before.

"We're also planning on having some events in the spring to continue to raise money," said Baxter. "We're planning on having a spring carnival as well as a Mr. Greek fraternity pageant where fraternity men can compete in their very own pageant."

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The Asian Student Union worked to spread cultural awareness throughout the community. The 150 members hosted their annual culture show, which exhibited traditional and modern performances and a narrative skit.
The Black Student Alliance (BSA) was one of the first organizations founded on the university's campus under the Center for Multicultural Student Services umbrella. The BSA sought to advocate for the black voice on campus and expose students and faculty to new ideas and experiences to create a forward movement.
Established in October 2006, the Chinese Student Association welcomed anyone who was interested in learning about Chinese culture. The organization also worked to raise $1,000 for a different philanthropy every year. They have been awarded the Diversity Enhancement Award and the Outstanding Student Organization Award, among others.
Through education and singing gospel music, the Contemporary Gospel Singers sought to spread the word of Jesus Christ throughout the campus and the community. Open to anyone who wanted to sing gospel, the organization performed in Homecoming concerts and at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration held by the Center for Multicultural Student Services.
Priding itself on being a values-based sorority, Delta Gamma was open to any woman who appreciated friendship, scholarship and social responsibility. Since coming to the university in 1982, the sorority had grown to have 100 members who fundraised for their philanthropy, Service for Sight.
The women of Delta Sigma Theta were committed to public service and academic achievement. The group consisted of nine members who worked hard to show support for the local community.
Jumping over one of the course’s fences, senior Vanessa Colley and her horse successfully complete a show. Despite the busy schedule of being a double-major, Colley always made time for the Equestrian team.

by Jennifer Beers [writer]

The Equestrian club finished fifth this year, along with having two riders qualify for Zones; Junior Devon Williams placed as Regional Champion in intermediate fences, and Sophomore Catherine Vaughan placed as Reserve Regional Champion for novice fences.

Around 15 members competed as part of the show team each semester, but there was close to 50 members in the club. Captain sophomore Linnea Elsammak organized and kept track of shows and was responsible for registering them.

“My favorite part of the club is the friendships,” said junior Amanda Podgorski. “There are so many great girls that I wouldn’t have met without joining this club, and in addition to that, I have learned so much about riding from them.”

The club competed in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, which encouraged any college student to participate regardless of experience or skill. The university competed in Zone 4, Region 2, against 11 other schools.
Finance major and sophomore Catherine Vaughan assesses the jump with a look of determination. Vaughan’s year achievement was winning one of the team’s two Zone Qualifier positions for Novice Fences.

Riding styles focused on a rider’s body position on the horse, and they were judged based on their posture and how they worked with the horse.

Junior Rebekah Jarzombek competed in the individual walk-trot equitation on the flat. The group included competitors who walked, trotted, changed direction, and finished in the middle of the ring at the same time. The horses that riders used were chosen for them right before they competed, which made it even more challenging since the riders had not been practicing with the same horses.

Jarzombek got involved in the club her freshman year after she attended Student Organization Night.

“I met some of the girls at the Equestrian Club table and decided to attend the first meeting,” said Jarzombek. “We all work very well together, have accomplished a lot, and have a blast even single time we are together. I consider many of the people in this club like my family and certainly my best friends.”


by britini geer [writer]

Our national championships, three home tournaments and one team. Continuing with their legendary winnings, the club archery team came together as a team despite the individualization of the sport.

"I practice about four to six hours every day for archery," said junior All-American Scott Einsmann. "As well as practicing on my own time we also have team practices throughout the fall in Godwin Hall and in the spring on the Hillside field."

Hosting three tournaments this year, including the Adam Wheatcroft Memorial Tournament and the national championship, the archery team also traveled to other tournaments across the country.

"I have been on the traveling team since the spring of my freshman year," said junior treasurer Katie Lee. "We typically compete in one indoor competition, which will be hosted here this year, and three outdoor competitions two of which will be hosted here as well."

While some tournaments were funded, other tournaments, such as the World Archery Festival and the Arizona cup, were self-funded by team members.

"My favorite part about being on the team is getting to travel," said Einsmann. "It's nice being able to go all over the country to compete in tournaments. My favorite has been the Arizona cup because it's a big tournament and is seen as very prestigious. A lot of my friends go too so it's nice to be with them while shooting."

With four national championships behind them, the team had one goal in mind; to win the national championship again. Aside from team-oriented goals, individual shooters also set high expectations for themselves in hopes of achieving bigger successes.

"Along with our team's goal of winning the national championship, I also hope to win the collegiate national championship this year," said Einsmann. "My own personal
goal is to be able to compete in the Olympics in 2012 and win a gold medal."

The archery team opened its club to shooters of all skill levels. Those showing the most improvement or skill joined the travel team to compete in tournaments.

"We practice six days a week in Godwin for two hours and this year our coach, Bob Ryder, has started doing various conditioning sessions," said Lee. "This helps us to prepare mentally for competition as well as provide us with knowledge about the set up of our equipment and to help better our form."

With members practicing individually and others traveling, the team encouraged members to put forth a team effort and come together to win another national championship.

"Everyone is always so welcoming and we just have a lot of fun together," said Lee. "We all get along great and it creates an environment that allows you to really enjoy yourself."

With a range of skill levels and a variety of goals, the club archery team came together through team-oriented practices in hopes of adding a fifth national championship to their record.
Into Hymn strove to be musically excellent and, more importantly, glorify the Lord with the members' voices. As the only all-female Christian a cappella group on campus, the organization released three albums and traveled around the country.
The purpose of Kappa Alpha Theta was to establish a sisterhood encouraging scholarship, leadership, personality and presentation. The 130 members of the sorority strived to be active members in the university community and worked to raise awareness for Court Appointed Special Advocates.
Madison Marketing Association offered its members opportunities in the forms of networking, preparation for the business world and community service programs for marketing experience. Open to students from all majors, MMA worked to expand the marketing and business knowledge of its members through workshops, speakers and events.
The Men's Water Polo team offered an environment in which team members could challenge themselves physically and mentally. The team's main goal was to give experienced and novice players equal opportunity to play the sport in a competitive setting.
Almost Heaven, the name of the university's Habitat for Humanity chapter affiliate, put into words what the 175 members strived to provide for homeowners.

Members traveled to Almost Heaven to build in Franklin, W.Va almost every Saturday. On Thursdays, they met to share pictures, giving workers the opportunity to stand up and talk about their experiences. Although there was a Harrisonburg affiliate, Almost Heaven's size was more compatible with the university chapter.

"They've been building tons of houses in comparison to the rest of the country, so it's more beneficial to be working with them, because there's always something to do," said junior Jason Farber, president of the organization.

On a typical build day, after the hour drive in rented university vans, Habitat for Humanity supervisors taught the students how to do the tasks they planned to complete that day. On most build days volunteer coordinator, Charity Holmes, would tell her story; one that resounded with Farber.

"From what I can remember, she lived in a trailer, and she had maybe three oil heaters, and during the winter it was so cold and they were struggling to stay warm," said Farber, describing the many issues with her home that constantly scared her.

"But then she applied for [a] Habitat house and she got one and I've never seen her smiling so much," said Farber. Holmes then became the Almost Heaven volunteer coordinator, and worked with the project coordinator of the university chapter.

In addition to the sweat and labor the organization contributed, they also donated financially.

"One long-term goal for our club is to build a home for someone," said Farber, hopeful to eventually raise about $40,000 to do so.

One challenge of the club was keeping up membership throughout the semester. So, the executive board approved a proposed system called "The Family Building Project," in which the members were divided into seven teams or families led by two team leaders.

"The problem with a large club is that it is hard to interact and meet people on a deeper level," said sophomore team leader Benjamin O'Brien. "Leading a team has enabled me to meet more people on a deeper level."

While the social aspect helped stabilize membership, it was the volunteering that was most important to Farber.

"It's pretty amazing to see people and hear their stories," said Farber. "When you meet somebody that is affected through Habitat, there's tears coming through their eyes and they're just so happy. That affects me too."
Habitat for Humanity members stand in front of where the next house will be constructed. Members were responsible for knowing how to complete every aspect of building the homes.

photo courtesy (jason farber)

Finishing a day’s work, junior Jacqueline Cook carries supplies back to the truck. Cook and other members had to load and unload trucks in addition to building the houses.

photo courtesy (jason farber)
The Bluestone, the university’s student-run yearbook, covered events from March of one year to March of the following year. This 350-page publication required that the dedicated editorial board and staff members work throughout the year to cover various events, sports and university happenings.

The Bluestone team consisted of nine editorial board members and a writing, photography and design staff. Each of these components played a unique and valuable part in producing the stories needed to meet each deadline.

For each deadline, the editorial board and staff worked to develop 12 feature stories in addition to either sports, organization or academic stories. The editorial board dedicated their entire weekend to preparing the stories for submission to the publishing company. The work started at about noon on Friday, and each day of that weekend, the editorial board worked for 10 to 12 hours until the editing process was complete.

While each member of the board had their own duties, they were each required to look at the different stories, which were submitted by the writing staff, multiple times. For example, the copy editor looked at each story three times before sending the final edited version to the creative director.

The managing editor was also responsible for working on captions, headlines and sub-head lines. After this last edit of the copy for each story, it was then sent to the creative director who actually placed the articles and corresponding pictures from the photographers onto the spreads. It was then sent back through the editing chain that looked over everything one last time through.

After this time consuming editing process, which was overseen by the editor in chief, Parvina Mamatova, the final spread was then ready to be submitted to The Bluestone’s publishing company, Taylor Publishing.

“They are very easy to work with, and we’ve had a pretty good relationship with them,” said senior copy editor Matthew Johnson.

One of the biggest problems, however, that the editorial board did face during deadlines was not having sources for quotes or information that writers used in their stories. It was frustrating for the editorial board when they weren’t able to contact the writer to determine the source and thus had to cut out an important quote.

The countless hours and weekends that were given up by the editorial board were reflective of their dedication to producing a book that represented the year within the university and beyond. It was a group effort and the writing, photography and design staffs each provided the pieces the editorial board needed to pull the spreads together each deadline.

While the deadline weekends were at times stressful and seemingly endless, the editorial board was successful in pulling through each deadline, thus promising the university community a successful representation of the year.
During an editorial board meeting, seniors Parvina Mamatova and Matthew Johnson brainstorm ideas for stories. After solidifying ideas, Johnson assigned the stories to staff writers.

Collaboratively editing, junior Amanda Caskey and senior Matthew Johnson discuss the wording of a sentence in a story. Both Caskey and Johnson improved stories by checking them for correct facts and grammar.

The purpose of the chapter of the NAACP was to improve the educational, social and economic status for all minority groups. The organization hosted a Unity Week, which consisted of several days of events that brought awareness of underserved populations to campus.
Note-oriety, an all-female a capella group at the university, was founded in 1998 by 15 women. In addition to singing a wide array of songs in true a capella style, the women traveled up and down the east coast to spread their love of music. Auditions were held each semester.

Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership and honors society, had initiated more than 300,000 members. Juniors and seniors who had at least 60 credit hours and a GPA over 3.5 were able to apply. ODK helped select a qualified applicant for the Dingledine Scholarship, as well as organized All Together One, which recognized outstanding leadership on campus.
Presbyterian Campus Ministry's purpose was to provide opportunities for spiritual growth through mission, Bible study, worship and friendship. The 14 members of the organization integrated the university's spirit into local church missions, as well as took pride in feeding and housing the homeless and leading worship services at local churches.
Sigma Sigma Sigma sisters listen intently to a presentation by author Leslie Goldman about body image and eating disorders. The event was part of a month long educational series for the sorority's philanthropy.

photo courtesy of Sigma Sigma Sigma

by justine howell [writer]

Sigma Sigma Sigma, also known as Tri Sigma, was founded by Margaret Barten, Louise Davids, Martha Trent Featherston, Isabella Merrick, Sallie Mitchie, Lelia Scott, Elizabeth Watkins and Lucy Wright at the State Female Normal School in Farmville, Virginia (now Longwood University). It was officially founded on April 20, 1898.

The national sorority sent out a magazine to all members called The Triangle of Sigma Sigma Sigma three times every year. The magazine's name was appropriately related to Tri Sigma's badge called the Triangle Degree: a triangle with sigmas in each corner, and a skull and crossed bones in the center.

The sorority adopted the sailboat as its symbol to represent continual forward motion, and the official flower was the purple violet. Accordingly, Sigma Sigma Sigma's colors were royal purple and white.

The jewel they claimed was the pearl, and their coat of arms was uniquely one designed by Harriet Hankins Alpha in 1902. It consisted of three Greek Sigmas, spreading wings joined at a circle and clasped hands. At the bottom was Tri Sigma's motto, “Faithful Unto Death.”

The founding of this sorority established three principles to live by: to ensure a perpetual bond of friendship, to develop strong womanly character, and to promote high standards of conduct.

Sigma Sigma Sigma's Alpha Upsilon chapter was founded at the university in 1939, currently holding 147 members.

“Tri Sigma has brought the best friends and experiences into my life, I have learned so much about myself, and how to build...}
long lasting relationships,” said junior Kaitlen Brown. “I have learned how to live by the values on a daily basis and reach out to the community in need by participating in countless philanthropic events.”

In addition to raising money for their own philanthropy, Tri Sigma had continually donated time, money and efforts to other Greek philanthropies including Alpha Tau Omega’s Rock For R.A.K, Alpha Kappa Lambda’s Turkey Trot, Delta Gamma’s Anchorsplash, Delta Delta Delta’s Triple Play, and Greek Week/Greek Sing.

Members of the Alpha Upsilon chapter were also involved on campus in organizations such as Panhellenic Council, Student Ambassadors, The Bluestones, SMAD Club, Operation Smile, Relay For Life, Club Gymnastics, Habitat For Humanity and Public Relations Student Society of America.

Their national vision was comprised of five pillars: partnerships with the foundation, be fiscally strong, be a chapter growth leader, increase alumnae involvement, and develop nationally recognized programming.

“Tri Sigma means more to me than words can describe and has enhanced my college years to the fullest, I could not be more proud to be a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma,” said Brown.

The Sigma Sigma Sigma sisters wear a custom T-shirt made to fundraise for the sorority’s philanthropy. The Leslie George Philanthropy brought awareness to eating disorders and taught young women to love and appreciate themselves.
ICE HOCKEY

by Mary Claire Jones [writer]

or any club team, one of the biggest challenges was finding a practice time conducive to everyone’s schedules. The university’s club ice hockey team, however, managed to find a rather unorthodox solution to this problem.

“We practice once a week on Wednesdays,” said team captain, junior Andrew LeClair. “From 11:30 to 12:30 at night.”

This, compounded with the fact that the team practiced at a rink in Charlottesville, meant that, even though it was only one night a week, being a member of the ice hockey team was quite a commitment.

“UVA has both a women’s and men’s club ice hockey team so they get priority of ice time,” said team founder, senior Margaret Emery. “But despite all of this, the team roster more than tripled in the past three years.”

“We started with seven members the first year, but we’re up to 28 now,” said LeClair.

The team started three years ago, thanks to a huge effort by Emery. “With JMU having my major but not an ice hockey team, I decided I was going to form a team,” said Emery. “It took [UREC Club Sports director] Chris Jones and myself working together [for about eight months] for the team to get passed through JMU and Club Sports.”

The team also became a member of the Blue Ridge Hockey Conference, and had a schedule of 10 conference games against schools such as William & Mary, Radford University, George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College, as well as two out-of-conference games with the University of Virginia and the University of Maryland.

“There was a lot of emailing university ice hockey programs, directors of the American Collegiate Hockey Association and Blue Ridge Hockey Conference, and calling people up to ask questions,” said Emery.

LeClair, who was elected as team captain his freshman year, explained that despite the growth the team had seen over recent years, he still felt close to all his teammates.

“The camaraderie we have is unbelievable,” said LeClair. “It’s a great group of guys... we enjoy playing together.”

Emery was also quick to identify the team’s tight-knit mindset as a favorite part.

“It’s amazing to see the players grow from year to year,” said Emery. “And to see the determination, intensity, and love for the game all the boys have [is really rewarding],” said Emery.

LeClair also highlighted the growth in the team’s performance as a bragging point.

“It’s cool to think that we went from a team of seven who was losing by 15 goals to, three years later, making the playoffs,” said LeClair.
An ice hockey team member skates off the ice after a game against the University of Virginia Wahoos. The 2010-2011 season was the first in which the team reached the post-season, but they were defeated in the first round by host Liberty University 7-2.

photo courtesy {breeze} Organizations } 255
SafeRides’ mission was to provide for a safer community by offering free rides home to university students during the weekend nights. The organization was not funded by the university, and therefore, held several fundraisers throughout the year to help finance office space, car rentals and equipment.
As a professional women's music sorority, Sigma Alpha Iota's mission was to further the development of music throughout the world and to form chapters of women who have a sincere interest in music. To become part of the 24 members, female students were required to have at least one music credit and go through the recruitment process.
Founded on a predominately white campus on Nov. 12, 1922, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. sought to improve community public service, leadership development and education through programs and activities. The sorority participated in Greek Switch and Founders Week.
Personal growth, friendship, service, and loyalty were Sigma Kappa Sorority's values that they pledged to live by. The group also worked to provide women lifelong opportunities and support for social, intellectual and spiritual development, by bringing women together to positively impact the community.
Kappa Pi, the Honors Art and Art History Fraternity on campus, consisted of artists who came together to share their art with each other and the community. Unlike typical Greek Life, Kappa Pi's sole purpose was to encourage artists to use their talents to service the local community.

"Kappa Pi helps artists to widen their artistic perspective and meet new people with the same interests," said president, senior Karla Stiebel. "The exposure an artist gets while in Kappa Pi is amazing, we have several art shows throughout the year, and the networking after graduation continues between the alumni."

The fraternity was responsible for several service projects each year including Very Special Arts (VSA), an arts fair for special needs children. The fair contained tables of crafts that allowed the children to work on projects such as VSA. Yet, despite their mutual interest in art, everyone has the same style or approach, which was welcomed within the group.

In addition to VSA, students also got the opportunity to impact the university's look.

"I was in charge of painting a mural this year in the new part of the football stadium," said senior Kelsey Beerman. "I was able to plan out the mural and see the transformation of a blank wall into something filled with JMU spirit."

Due to its unique purpose, the Kappa Pi brothers shared a strong bond that existed between both old and new members, and most of the brothers agreed that the friendships formed within the fraternity was the best part of the organization.

"Everyone is very friendly and supportive of all the brothers, and very willing to help out with someone's art project if they need it," said sophomore Shea Goitia. "The emphasis of Kappa Pi is the strong bonds that we create as one big family. I've never felt any pressure to be someone I'm not or compromise my beliefs because I'm in a fraternity, and I believe that's because Kappa Pi is such a supportive community."

As a result of the close bonds formed between brothers, the members of Kappa Pi were more comfortable sharing their own work. Older brothers gave advice to younger ones, and they all worked together on projects such as VSA. Yet, despite their mutual interest in art, they all maintained their own personal individuality, which was welcomed within the group.

"Even though we are all artists, no one has the same style or tells the same story in their art," said Beerman. "Everyone is unique, and Kappa Pi showcases just that."
Kappa Pi poses for a picture during an ice cream social.
Even though it was a large group everyone's individuality shone through.

At their ice cream social, junior Emilia Leblanc, sophomore Bryce Fraught, senior Karla Stiebel and Braxton Congrove don tacky Christmas sweaters. The group took a break from studying to hang out.


The Society for Human Resource Management sought to promote the role of human resources in the career field and educate students on the importance of HR in the workplace. With 50 members in the organization, networking opportunities were also prevalent, as membership was open to all majors.
Students for Minority Outreach's goal was to aid in the recruitment of minority students to the university through developing and implementing annual programs, such as Take-A-Look, which brought over 1,100 guests to campus every year. The organization was started in 1989 by members of the Black Student Alliance.

Tau Beta Sigma was a co-ed honorary band sorority open to anyone who participated in a band program, such as the Marching Royal Dukes. Founded in 1946, the organization sought to promote equality and diversity by empowering women in the band profession. The 35 members participated in Relay For Life, Adopt-A-Highway and music-based projects within the community.
Vietnamese Student Association

Founded in 2006 with the goal of uniting students and alumni with interests in Vietnamese culture, the Vietnamese Student Association fundraised for Relay for Life, its chapter philanthropy, and educated the community on cultural bias and stereotypes. The organization comprised of 75 members.
Mary Myrick Daniel, Martha Hardware Redding and Mary DuPont Lines founded Phi Mu in 1852 at Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, making it the second oldest sorority in the nation.

Their motto was “Les Soeurs Fideles” or “The Faithful Sisters.” The sorority’s colors were rose and white; its flower was the pink carnation; its values were known as “Love, Honor, and Truth;” its mascot was the lion; and its symbol was a barbed quatrefoil.

On Dec. 4, 2010, the university’s newest addition to the Panhellenic sororities, Phi Mu, initiated and installed its first sisters. Phi Mu colonized during the fall semester and held a bid-cell day on Oct. 8, 2010, offering 150 female students the opportunity to join the founders of the Gamma Theta chapter of Phi Mu at the university. This was made possible by the six chapter consultants who ran the interview and colonization process, and continued to guide Phi Mu as the year progressed.

“I love the diversity Phi Mu has amongst my sisters, the bonds we’ve created, and the service we contribute to our philanthropy and other philanthropies,” said freshman Jennifer Vetter.

In order to become members, interested females were instructed to join the “Go Phi Mu” Facebook page, appear for an individual interview, and attend one of two recruitment parties in Taylor Hall dedicated to educating the potential new members on Phi Mu’s history, purpose, meaning and philanthropy.

Once they were initiated, the new members went on an overnight colony retreat at Camp Horizons where they bonded and found out who

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their sorority twins were. Twins were selected by a council of elected officials who based their decisions on preferences made by the sisters. New members were known as Phis. Elections were held after Phi Mu was colonized to determine a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer and a secretary. Under these positions were 14 committee chairmen, including campus activities chairman, public relations chairman, and parents and alumnae chairman. Every sister was in a committee.

Each member was also responsible for joining at least one other organization on campus. Many sisters were involved with volunteer work at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals as well as the Mercy House, Avante Nursing Home, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Lambda Pi Eta, tutoring at local elementary schools, Big Brothers and Sisters, and CHOICES, to name a few.

Phi Mu held sober mixers with both social sororities and fraternities to establish relations with them. These mixers included going to the movies, snow tubing, holding dinners and lunches, and hosting a total of three date functions: Fall For Phi Mu, a Christmas Cocktail and a Valentine’s Day Social. They also participated in Greek Sing and Greek Stomp with the rest of the Greek community.

“It’s nice to see the Greek community is expanding and that Phi Mu is doing so much to get involved with the other Greek chapters here at JMU as well as on campus. I love them,” said freshman Alexa Johnson of the Psi chapter of Alpha Sigma Tau.

Members were required to complete 10 total hours of community service, five of which were required to be dedicated to their philanthropy. Members created a team for the university’s Relay For Life walk, as well as contributed to other Greek chapters’ philanthropies, including two teams in Delta Gamma’s Anchor Splash for Service For Sight, Lambda Chi’s Pumpkin Smash, and Alpha Phi’s Aphiasco proceeds week.

“Being a member of Phi Mu has allowed me to meet so many amazing women and to have leadership opportunities that I could not have found with any other organization,” said junior Lindsey Wall. “I have become so close with many of the girls in such a short period of time. Phi Mu has finally made me feel like I belong to JMU, and I feel like I have a home away from home. I am so proud to call myself a Phi Mu and to be part of the founding of this organization on JMU’s campus.”

Phi Mu sisters, Rachael Bettius and Kelsey Jonas share a moment during an event held by the sorority. Approximately 150 female students were given the opportunity to join the founding members in the sorority's first year at the university.

Phi Mu sisters come together to form a special bond. As the newest Panhellenic sorority on campus, Phi Mu was for any woman who valued academic development and service to others.

Sophomores Rachel Shamey, Devyani Shenoy, Gina Cook, Kristen Clerenger and Mary Gillum gather together during one of Phi Mu’s many social events. The sorority held several sober mixers with other sororities and fraternities on campus.

photo courtesy {kelsey Jonas}
WXJM was a student-run broadcasting station that sought to promote a variety of underrepresented and independent musicians throughout the university and the community. Students had the unique opportunity to host a live radio show that reflected their own musical styles.
The Gamma Kappa chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha was founded at the university on Nov. 16, 1949. The sorority promoted sisterhood and raised money for breast cancer awareness, its national philanthropy in which sisters became heavily involved.
Junior Megan Flosdorf sports a purple cap as senior Alyssa Klepper attempts to block her throw during one of the club's scrimmages. The team accepted players new to the sport as well as more experienced members.

The field formation and the traffic in the pool looks a lot like a soccer game, in that it's very back and forth, but the difference is you're swimming and you use your hands to move the ball," said senior Kaitlyn Jenkins, treasurer of the women's water polo club.

Like many other sports, the water polo team created drive formations to move the ball down the pool to score by getting it in the other team's net. The team also used two defense tactics—zone and man-to-man defense.

The team practiced four to five times a week, usually incorporating one dry land cross-training practice. The women's competitive season began in the spring semester, when all of the tournaments were held. Pre-season tournaments took place in the fall semester. Jenkins said these tournaments helped to give new members a chance to play before the competitive season, especially because many people have never played water polo before.

"It's one thing to play week to week against your teammates, but it is another vicious animal when you're suddenly playing against people competitively," said Jenkins.

The Thursday night before tournaments, the team hosted pasta parties to prepare. The club held a semi-formal in December. Similar to a sorority, the team had a tradition of revealing bigs and littles at the beginning of the year.

The biggest inter-team tournament was the Purple Gold Tournament,
Senior Kaitlyn Jenkins, attempts to block a goal during a practice game in UREC. Jenkins was the Executive Board’s Treasurer for the Water Polo club.

The club’s biggest community service event was participating in Relay for Life each year. Last year, approximately 20 girls represented women’s water polo at the event. Members have also volunteered at Our Community Place, a homeless shelter in downtown Harrisonburg, as well as tutored after school at Skyline Middle School in Harrisonburg and participated in UREC’s Warm A Winter Wish project in December.

The team coached each other and encouraged each other to learn and grow in their abilities. Senior Megan Flosdorf, the club’s president, said the team offered a fun atmosphere while remaining competitive. Playing on the club team also allowed her to meet an entirely new set of friends.

“Just the friendships that I’ve made are a lot different than the friends I’ve made outside the team,” said Flosdorf.

Many of the team members came together, determined to learn the rules of the sport during each practice.

Jenkins said that it’s much less competitive to make the team compared to sports clubs. No try-outs are hosted and many of the team’s members had never played water polo prior to coming to the university.

“It invites you if you have a willingness to learn. That’s the beauty of the sport,” said Jenkins. “And a willingness to work hard. There are no slackers on our team. You have got to work your butt off.”
lot of people don’t know that Student Ambassadors do anything more than give tours,” said senior Courtney Dickerson.

For the past few years, Student Ambassadors worked to be more outwardly focused on the university’s other organizations. The Student Ambassador executive board created a whole new outreach committee that’s sole job was to develop relationships with other organizations on campus.

“Anyone at JMU that is involved in another club should feel free to approach us and tell us about their events. We pride ourselves on going to other events on campus,” said sophomore Kyle Penrose.

In addition to the outreach committee, the organization had seven other committees that organized major events like, Operation Santa Claus, and kept the entire organization of 140 members running smoothly. The executive board implemented a new strategic planning meeting so Ambassadors could talk about things they wanted to work on within the organization.

“The strategic planning meetings had a slow start, but over the semester people have been voicing more opinions,” said senior Anthony Russo.

A new Homecoming committee was in the beginning stages of being created. While student ambassadors had always been involved in the pep rally, this new committee would be responsible for planning the Homecoming pep rally.

Ambassadors would be taking on this role in addition to the many events they organize on and off-campus, including Operation Santa Claus, Parent of the Year Award, Madison Pride, the Carrie Kutner Scholarship, Choices, Alumni dinners and Take the Pulse.

“We are different from a lot of organizations because we are very service oriented,” said Dickerson. “Our mission is serving students past, present and future. The social aspect comes through our mission.”

Operation Santa Claus, one of the biggest events of the fall semester was revived with a new theme during the fall semester, by committee chairs, juniors Claire Austin and Kaitlyn Kilduff. This year to advertise for the event, the theme was to find Santa Claus. The committee used the theme to advertise for the event by creating videos and performing skits to drive the story along.

“The committee heads put so much work and time into the theme, they brought it to a whole new level. It’s going to be a tough theme to live up to,” said Russo.

The event culminated in a charity concert to collect presents and raise money to buy presents for foster kids in the Harrisonburg area. The concert took place on Dec. 6, and raised more than $3,000.

During operation Santa Claus, Homecoming and Relay for Life, Student Ambassadors put on a “moca-pella” performance.

“We put on a little dance in white boxers and polo shirts. It’s a lot of fun, and so many people come out to see us sing and dance in our boxers,” said Russo.

The men of Student Ambassadors use these performances to spoof the a cappella groups Exit 245 and Madison Project.

Student Ambassadors prided themselves on being part of a service-oriented organization. The organization’s mission statement was “students serving students: past, present and future.” Ambassadors guided special tours every week, helped out at graduation commencement, chaperoned middle school dances and collected money to sponsor a child in a developing country.

“Pretty much whenever something happens at JMU that needs student involvement, we are called to help out,” said Penrose.

The 2010 president of Student Ambassadors, senior Emily Govel, agreed.

“I never have trouble finding members to step up,” said Govel. “Student Ambassadors are selfless, they love JMU, believe in what JMU stands for and want to give back to all that JMU has given us.”
During Operation Santa Claus, seniors Ashley Smith and Lauren Trani and junior Libby Hale look at the toys collected for less fortunate kids. Student Ambassadors raised over $3,000 for Harrisonburg Social Services.

While walking down the ISAT hill, senior Anthony Russo talks one-on-one with a parent of a potential Duke. Student Ambassadors led groups of potential students on tours of the campus throughout the year.

Photo by Leslie Haase.
varsity sports
Spring Sports
278 baseball
280 softball
282 women's lacrosse
284 men's tennis
286 women's tennis
288 women's track and field
The Blugstone 2011

SCOREBOARD

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by mary claire jones [writer]

he men on the baseball team knew a thing or two about hard work. They spent months training and hours traveling to games; but if asked, they wouldn’t have had it any other way.

“My favorite thing is definitely the camaraderie, being able to work toward a common goal,” said junior Jake Lowery.

The season lasted all year, beginning with training in the fall and culminating in playoffs.

“Our goal was to win the CAA regular season and advance to the conference tournament, followed by the NCAA,” said sophomore Bradley Shaban.

Getting there took a lot of training on the team’s part. The men started training in the fall with lifting and infield and outfield practices during the week, and scrimmages on the weekends.

In the winter, the team worked on individual hitting with the coaches and worked in the bullpen.

“Feb. 1 is usually the first day we’re allowed to start playing outside again, but because of all the snow this year, we had to stay inside all winter,” said Lowery.

Once spring returned, the practice regimen grew much more time-consuming. In addition to lifting three times a week and field practice, the team usually played two games during the week and three on the weekends. Not that the team minded the time commitment.

“I really enjoy the bonds we form and how well we play together as a team,” said Shaban.

Lowrey agreed, saying he enjoyed the diversity of the team.

“We get along really well, which I think can sometimes be hard at the college level,” said Lowrey. “But we come from all walks of life and we’re really good at making everyone feel welcome. We love playing together. We play the best when we’re having a good time.”

Trying to beat the ball, senior McKinnon Langston slides into the base. Langston by his teammates, photo by (sports media)
Swinging for the fences, redshirt senior Alex Foltz looks to make a connection with the ball. Foltz had a career batting average of .339 as of the 2010 season.

Photo by (sports media)
After catching an out, outfielder redshirt senior Chelsea Ryan returns her catch to the infield. Although Ryan received the team’s Most Improved Player Award in 2009, she sat most of her senior year out due to an injury.

Colonial Athletic Association Player of the Year shortstop junior Ashley Burnham slides into third base during a game. Burnham led the team in both runs and hits.

MVP
Ashley Burnham
Junior
Business
Danvers, Mass.

Statistics:
Games played - 57
Games started - 57
Batting average - .311
Home runs - 9
RBIs - 26

Honors:
• CAA Player of the Year
• First Team All-CAA Second Team
• NFCA All-Northeast Region
• VaSID Second Team All-State

Most Improved
Katie Spitzer
Senior
Kinesiology
Broadway, Va.

Statistics:
Games played - 53
Games started - 51
Batting average - .297
Home runs - 9
RBIs - 30

Honors:
• Second Team All-CAA
• VaSID Second Team All-State
New Field, same success

by Jennifer Beers (writer)

Patrick's Day proved to be a lucky day for the women's softball team for the 2010 season. Playing its first home game in the new stadium, the team broke in the field with a successful first win to the season. The lady Dukes defeated Longwood 9-8. However, they followed the win with a loss to Longwood in the highest scoring game in program history, 16-14.

For the fourth consecutive year, the team finished its 2010 season in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Championships. Their victory over UNC Wilmington sealed the deal for them to advance to the championships at Hofstra Stadium in Hempstead, N.Y.

The championship consisted of three games played by the third-seeded Dukes, resulting in one win and two losses. They started off on May 12 against Georgia State, whom they defeated 3-0. Sophomore Caitlin Manning went 3-3 with two runs batted in (RBI), to help bring the women to victory, along with a four-hitter shutout pitched by Olivia McPherson. They advanced to the second game of the Championships, where they were defeated by top-seeded, and toughest competition, Hofstra University in a 1-8 loss.

Junior Ashley Burnham represented the Dukes as a conference standout by being named CAA Player of the Year. Burnham ended the season with a .312 batting average, along with a four-hitter shutout pitched by Olivia McPherson. The CAA has a lot of very talented players and I felt truly honored to be considered among some of the top players in the area. My teammates and coaches were a huge part of my success, they all motivated me to be a better athlete in practice every day.
No LAXing Around for the CAA Champions

by caitlin crumpton (writer)

Honored as the “winningest team” in the program’s 42-year history, with a final record of 17-3, the university’s lacrosse team was able to outplay their competition and clinch the 2010 Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Championship title.

With an eight-game winning streak under their belt going into the title game, the Dukes were able to defeat Hofstra University 10-6 and advance to the NCAA tournament.

Rising to the number fifth seed after the Hofstra victory, the Dukes took on Stanford University in the opening round of NCAA play. Ten saves from senior goalie Morgan Kelly and a strong defense in the second half allowed the team to sneak by Stanford with a 9-8 win.

Next was Syracuse University in the NCAA quarterfinals. The Dukes were up 3-2 by halftime, but the Orange were able to score five goals and hold the Dukes scoreless in the second half. This defeat ended the Dukes 10-game winning streak and knocked the team out of tournament play.

However, the Dukes’ accomplishments throughout the season were not overlooked due to the defeat against Syracuse. The team’s .850 winning percentage broke the former JMU record of .800. The team also finished second in the NCAA for defense, allowing only 7.2 goals per game.

“Beating Hofstra and winning the title completely validated all the hard work and sacrifice that we had put in leading up to last year’s season,” said junior Casey Ancarrow. “It was one of the most fulfilling moments of my lacrosse career so far.”

As a freshman, Ancarrow was a threat for the Dukes, earning CAA Honors:
• WILCA All-America second team
• WILCA All-South first team
• All CAA first team
• CAA leader in game-winning goals
• JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete and VA State Rookie of the Year honors, and being named CAA Second team All-Conference attack.

Ancarrow’s impact played a part in the team’s success, but leadership from veteran players was also a factor.

“Our seniors came on strong and led the team toward our goals demanding effort from the entire team, and the juniors supported their cause, showing great confidence and loyalty,” said Coach Shelley Klaes-Bawcombe.

The team lost 5 seniors, including two All-Americans, Kim Griffin and Morgan Kelly.

“We expect to build off the success of last season,” said Klaes-Bawcombe. “We return many starters and the attitude that hard work does pay off. We want to compete for another CAA championship and get back to the NCAA tournament in our quest to get to the final four.”

Through motivation, determination, and hard work from both upperclassmen and freshmen, the lacrosse team showed what it meant to be successful, when they walked away with the 2010 CAA title.

Looking around the field, senior Lexy Schwabenland looks for an open teammate. Schwabenland was named to the All-County First Team in the “Baltimore Sun” newspaper as a senior.

photo by {sports media}

{ THESPOTLIGHT }

MVP

Kim Griffin
Graduate Accounting
Jarrettsville, Md

Statistics:
• Shots - 197
• Goals - 38
• Assists - 23
• Draw - 31

Honors:
• WILCA All-America second team
• WILCA All-South first team
• All CAA first team
• CAA leader in game-winning goals
• JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete

Most Improved

Morgan Kelly
Graduate Kinesiology
Annapolis, Md

Statistics:
• Saves - 133
• Goals Against - 129
• Shots Faced - 347
• Wins - 17

Honors:
• WILCA All-America third team
• WILCA All-South second team
• NCAA No. 1 in goals-against average
• NCAA No. 5 in save percentage
• Dean’s List
Senior Diana Apel dodges an opponent as she looks for an opening to pass. The defender was the team’s Rookie of the Year in 2008.

photo by (sports media)
by justine howell (writer)

The men's tennis team experienced multiple victories, even defeating teams that posed a greater challenge.

One of the more memorable matches for junior Matthew King took place over spring break on March 12, 2010 when the team faced Coastal Carolina. King and his partner, senior Michael Smith, were off to a rough start at the beginning of doubles, not feeling too confident and worried they were letting the team down.

The team's spirits were low because winning the doubles points were crucial to a victory. During the match, everyone could feel the tension in the air and knew it would be a close game.

"We knew how important winning the last match would be because it would pump everyone up going into the singles. We basically just kept telling ourselves, 'win this match and things will go our way in the end,'" said King.

King and Smith fought hard and came out on top, getting the rest of the players excited for singles. According to King, this win made the pair feel proud and accomplished.

"Being able to pull through with this match was huge because they were one of our toughest opponents of the year. It basically assured the team that no matter what happens in the matches we play, as long as we keep fighting we always have a chance to win," said King.

The team didn't beat Coastal Carolina in a landslide win, or lose horribly, but they fought honorably and respectfully. This particular match motivated King to play the rest of his matches.

Senior Yaroslav Voznenko led the team to victory in a 6-4 win in his singles match.

Overall, the team's statistics were great and the season was one of which they could be proud.

"This year we not only expect to do as well as last year, but definitely want to make a dent in the CAA tournament and show that we are one of the top teams in our conference," said King, looking forward to the next season.

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MVP
Michael Smith
Graduate
Business Management
Patrick Station, Va.
Statistics:
Went 18-6 in singles play
Went 1-1 in doubles play
Honors:
• Second Team All-CAA singles
• Third Team All-CAA doubles as a senior

Most Improved
Tommi Nissinen
Junior
International Business
Oulu, Finland
Statistics:
Went 1-1 in singles play
Went 1-1 in doubles play
Honors:
• Third Team All-CAA singles
• CAA Player of the Week

SCOREBOARD

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Preparing to receive a serve, senior Yarsoslav Voznenko gets in the ready position. Voznenko had a record of 9-11 in singles play and 12-13 in doubles play during his spring 2010 dual matches. photo by (sports media)
Senior Kristin Nimitz follows through on her swing at a match. Nimitz completed her season 11-6 as sixth seed in singles and 8-14 playing all seeds in doubles.

ALL ACES

by julia cramr [writer]

The women’s tennis team might have seemed like a girlly-friendly group around campus, but when they hit the court, the teammates’ alter egos took over.

“We all have nicknames that we use on the court that are based on our alter egos,” said senior Tara Donner, who was referred to as the “Vicious Swan” when she was competing.

“Dr. Bob, the sports psychologist, came up with the idea so we would be better able to compete against our teammates,” said sophomore Megan Douglass.

Douglass was known to her team as “Doug the Golden Retriever” because “she gets every ball back.” The names also helped the team focus and become more intense when competing against other schools.

The team prepared for their spring season by traveling to Puerto Rico for a tournament during spring break.

“We went to the beach, and we ate out a lot, but mostly, we played tennis all day,” said Donner.

The team usually went to Florida during spring break, and this was the first season they traveled out of the country to play. The women played a round-robin tournament against teams from William and Mary, Boston and East Carolina University in Old San Juan.

“We weren’t used to playing matches [in Puerto Rico], and a lot of them were so close. It was like a wake up call,” said sophomore Michelle Nguyen.

The women brought their improved skills back with them, and showed everyone what they learned.

“When we got back, we beat Richmond,” said Donner. “They had won their conference last year and got in the NCAA tournament so that was a big deal. It was the beginning of our winning streak.”

The team was composed of a close-knit group of nine girls.

“We all at least live in the same neighborhood,” said sophomore Katherine Balling. “We wear purple and yellow tutus to football games. We make sure to always feel part of a team.”

Being so close made it difficult for the women to play against each other.

“Competing against each other is the hardest part,” said Nguyen. “We are so close we finish each others’ sentences, so we try to leave the game on the court.”

The team ended the season still frustrated after a few close losses.

“We need to step up so we can win those close matches,” said senior Kristin Nimitz, “that’s where our alter egos come in.”
The Spotlight

MVP
Kinsey Pate
Junior
Kinesiology
Matthews, N.C.

Statistics:
Went 13-7 in singles play
Went 11-13 in doubles play

Honors:
• Third Team All-CAA Singles

Most Improved
Megan Douglass
Sophomore
Kinesiology
Wilton, Conn.

Statistics:
Went 12-10 in singles play
Went 10-11 in doubles play

Scoreboard

jmu-opponent

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Senior Ida Donner
completed a backhanded
swing during a match.
Donner completed the
spring season 2-0 as third
seed double.
photo by (sports media)
Senior Kelly Jemison went into her 3000-meter steeplechase race at the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Championships relaxed, hoping to finish somewhere around her third place seed. Winning hadn't been in her plans.

"The race went out really fast, and I kind of hung back. The steeple's so long and grueling with the hurdles," said Jemison. "I just stuck to my plan, each lap inched up a little... until I suddenly realized, [with] a couple laps to go that I actually had a chance of winning, which wasn't something I really thought about seriously. It was the last event, so the whole team was out there screaming at the last curve. I was exhausted, but [that] last push, [I] came around the final curve."

For Jemison, a distance runner, that kind of team support is what defined the 2010 spring season. The team's new head coach, Ta' Fries, spent a great deal of time making sure the different training groups, such as sprinters, distance runners, and jumpers, didn't feel disconnected.

"She's been trying to get everyone together and support everyone else," said sophomore distance runner Katie Gorman. "Some of my best friends are within my own event area, but I would have no problem having conversations with anybody on the team."

At the CAA Championships the young team struggled.

"As we got down to the end of spring, there were a lot of injuries. A lot of things didn't turn out quite the way we wanted at conference," said Jemison. 

Junior Daisy Van Ness, a sprinter, said the CAA houses a lot of competitive girls to run with. You're working off the other girls and they're helping you."

Van Ness, who ran the 100-meter dash, and sophomore Danyelle Kent-Robinson in the high jump. The 1600-meter and 3200-meter relay teams also qualified and competed at the ECAC meet.

"The 4x800 [relay] at ECACs did incredible last spring. They exceeded all expectations, qualifying for the finals," said Jemison. "They broke nine minutes which is a huge barrier for the 4x800 [relay]."

The 3200-meter relay team, composed of sophomores Katie Harman and Annie Reiner, and juniors Heather Lambert and Brittany Wilhelm, finished in fourth place at the ECAC meet. The 1600-meter relay team finished in 14-place.

"A relay makes everything better," said Van Ness, who ran the 1600-meter relay at times throughout the season. "It's always more fun when you have other girls to run with. You're working off the other girls and they're helping you."

Gorman, McDonald, Harman, and sophomore Stacey Nobles all went on to compete at the NCAA USA Junior National Championship meet. Gorman placed ninth in the 3000-meter run. McDonald placed seventh in the long run, Harman finished eighth in the 1500-meter run, and Nobles finished sixth in the 3000-meter run.

Despite the excellent individual performances in the post-season, the biggest accomplishment for the team was coming together and seeing improvement, especially from the freshmen team members.

"[George Mason University has] really good girl sprinters. They have really good 400 [meter dash] runners," said Van Ness.

Many individuals qualified at the CAA meet for the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) meet, including Gorman, Jemison, sophomore Marissa McDonald in the long jump and 100-meter dash, and sophomore Danyelle Kent-Robinson in the high jump. The 1600-meter and 3200-meter relay teams also qualified and competed at the ECAC meet.

"The 4x800 [relay] at ECACs did incredible last spring. They exceeded all expectations, qualifying for the finals," said Jemison. "They broke nine minutes which is a huge barrier for the 4x800 [relay]."
Competing in the steeplechase, senior Kelly Jemison races through water to the finish line. Jemison was the CAA champion in the 3,000-meter steeplechase during her 2009-2010 season.

photo by (sports media)

Starting off as a pack, track runners from different universities look to lead the way. Although track was considered a team sport, the athletes were judged based on individual performances.

photo by (sports media)

OUTSTANDING FIELD
Marissa McDonald
Sophomore
Engineering
Harrisburg, Pa.

Statistics:
Runner-up for long jump
Third in 100m dash (11.95 sec.) in CAA
JMU long jump record – 195.75
100m dash – 11.95 sec.

Honors:
• Long jump fourth place All-East at ECAC Championships
• Long jump runner-up All-CAA at CAA Championships
• 100m third place All-CAA at CAA Championships
• Long jump seventh place at USA Junior National Championships

OUTSTANDING RUNNER
Alison Parris
Senior
Communication Studies/Human Resources Development
St. Leonard, Md.

Statistics:
Personal record – 4:50 (mile), 16:27 (5k), 2:10 (800)

Honors:
• JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete
• CAA Commissioner’s Academic Award
Fall Sports
292 cheerleading
294 cross country
296 field hockey
298 football
300 men's golf
302 women's golf
304 men's soccer
306 women's soccer
308 volleyball
new BEGINNINGS

As the flyer hits a pike, the bases prepare to catch her. Another flyer anticipated being caught as she finished her basket toss. (Photo courtesy of Kelly Marie Moore)

by Britni Geer (Writer)

A new coach, new workout plans and new beginnings; the cheerleading squad went into their season uncertain with the presence of their new head coach, Kelly Moore.

"When we came back to school in August, none of us really knew what to expect," said junior Lauren Maira. "We weren’t really sure how we were going to adapt to a new coach and there are always a lot of students who try out each season for the squad."

Before the season started, students had to try out and returning members had to re-try out to make the squad. This season brought a lot of new cheerleaders, along with new coach, Moore, who had a fresh outlook for the squad.

"I have been cheerleading for eight years and this is my third season with the squad," said Maira. "At my first tryout, there were 80 people for eight spots. Each year there are always a ton of people that try out for slim spots and all the returners still have to try out too. It can get really competitive, especially since we were starting this season with a new coach."

Despite the uncertainty, the squad found that Moore brought more to the team than they thought. The squad practiced for two hours every night and lifted weights twice a week at 6 a.m. Their workouts proved a lot more difficult than previous seasons and practices became more frequent.

"Adapting to the new coach was really hard at first," said junior Kristen Slaughter. "We started with a lot more intense workouts and harder practices but it’s definitely improving our skills. I think it’s safe to say we’re all really looking forward to how this season is going to play out."

The squad quickly learned that with more challenging practices came better skills and techniques. The squad hoped to receive more funding and possibly evolve their team into a more competitive squad.

"Our new coach is trying to change the program to be more competitive so the workouts will definitely pay off in the long run," said Maira. "I can already tell that our skills are getting better and our team in general is improving."
Spending hours of practice together with long workouts and lifting in the weight room to improve their skills kept the squad a closely knit team.

"The girls on the squad are my closest friends since we spend so much time together," said Maira. "We definitely have a great team bond."

The upcoming season already posed a challenge as half of the squad graduated, leaving only three seniors to carry the team.

"Since half of our squad will be gone next season we are really looking forward to where our coach is going to take us," said Slaughter. "It's exciting to be a part of this new transition and to partake in all the new progress that's happening."

The uncertainty of a season with a new coach quickly faded once the squad realized all the new possibilities she brought to the team. Although the season proved more physically demanding than before, the team came together to start a new beginning.

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At the Villanova game, three cheerleaders announce the football team's arrival by rushing university flags across the field. This practice brought school spirit to an away game.

photo courtesy {kelly marie moore}
Their impressive goals and hard work paid off. The highlight of the season was when the team won the CAA Cross Country Championship for the first time since 2002. Senior Alison Parris and sophomore Stacey Nobles took first and second places in the championship. Parris finished the six-kilometer race in 20 minutes, 23 seconds—the best time in her running career. Nobles, followed closely behind, finishing the race in 20 minutes, 49 seconds.

"I was confident, not cocky, that I was going to win," said Parris. "Everything was coming together at the perfect time. It had been a while, and was long overdue. It was a great team effort."

Rinker said the team dynamic played an integral part in the team's success.

"They are a very close-knit, very outgoing, enjoyable group to work with," said Rinker.

The team consisted of five freshmen, nine sophomores, two juniors and five seniors, Lynne Colombo, Mariah Hagadone, Kelly Jemison, Parris and Jessica Propst.

"I'm so proud of my team," said Parris. "We really worked together as a unit. Back when I was a freshman, the team was really segregated; now we are really bonded."

The strong bond helped make the championship a team effort.
Runners of the cross country team push themselves during a match. The cross country team won the 2010 CAA Cross Country Championships. photo by {sports media]
he women's field hockey team experienced a new kind of season. Although the team's record did not match what it had been in previous years, the team improved greatly throughout the season.

A significant change to the team was the addition of new assistant coach Michael Boal. Boal joined the university's team in May 2010 after working as the assistant director of hockey at Durham University in England.

"I think he's really helped out with when we do drills," said sophomore Auburn Weisensale. "He'll explain why we're doing it and give us reasons of how it relates to the game."

Most of the players on the team agreed that the addition of Boal to the coaching staff helped the team as a whole.

"He has a whole different perspective on field hockey than we do," said senior Rebecca Hilgar. "He's helped make everything easier to understand. He's very good at breaking down situations and teaching them to us bit by bit, which I think helps everyone."

Despite the addition of a new assistant coach, the team's season record did not show how much the team had improved as a whole.

"We have a decent amount of freshmen who are playing, and it's always hard to learn their styles and put it in and make everyone mesh together," said Hilgar. "A good example of seeing how far we've come is when we played UNC. We lost 4-1, but it was the best game we ever played. You could really see a change in our team."

In addition to the young team, many of the strongest opponents were able to strengthen the team over the course of the season. However, this made it harder for the Dukes to win, especially if they made small mistakes during the game.

"We've had a couple of difficult teams that we've played especially Duke and VCU," said junior Lindsay Cutchins. "VCU was a game that we knew we could win, but because of our mistakes and not coming out there in the beginning we lost that game."

Another tough game for the team was against Drexel. The team went into the game knowing that they would be able to win, yet ended up losing.

"That was a real setback because we pretty much controlled the whole game and we could have won," said Cutchins. "But we haven’t been able to consistently play a whole game at our top 100 percent."

Although they endured a challenging season, the team continued to push themselves each day to improve, during both practices and games.

"We need to keep being accountable for each other and for ourselves," said Weisensale, "and if we do something wrong, we need to fix it."
Front Row (L to R): Stephanie Shalak, Bikay Hagan, Tara Benson, Megan Beavon
Second Row (L to R): Lise van Dam, Danielle Edmonda, Melissa McVay, Autumn Weisberge, Toni Lindsey, Jenna Austin, Sam Shilts
Last Row (L to R): Lindsay Cutcliffe, Elizabeth Flora, Karen Sager, Ashley Adams, Natalie de Poel, Feleheh (Mary Amy Saleh), Courtney Beaudel, Amy Jarem

MVP
Amy Daniel
Senior
IDLS, Middle School Education
Mountain Top, Pa.

Statistics:
Games played - 18
Games started - 18
Goals - 19
Assists - 9
Points - 47

Honors:
• First Team All-CAA
• CAA Player of the Week (Aug. 31)
• JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athlete
• Dean's List

Most Improved
Lise van Dam
Freshman
Undeclared
The Hague, The Netherlands

Statistics:
Games played - 18
Games started - 18
Goals - 2
Assists - 1
Points - 5

Honors:
• Second Team All-CAA
• All-Rookie team

SCOREBOARD

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Features 297
A referee accompanies the team as they make their way from the locker room to the field. The football team walked in a line as added effect to their entrance.

Senior quarterback Drew Dudzik looks to pass the ball to his teammate. Dudzik was one of the team's captains.

photo by {leslie haase}
After defeating Virginia Tech 21-16 in one of the biggest wins in school history, the last thing expected was for the varsity football team to win three conference games and end the season with a 6-5 record.

The team's hopes of making the Division I-AA playoffs were cut short with a 13-10 overtime loss to the University of Richmond, causing the Dukes to miss the playoffs two consecutive years for the first time since 2002 and 2003.

Injuries to key players and starters, along with the lack of a consistent offense, hurt the Dukes and caused them to struggle throughout the season.

"It's tough when you lose a lot of key players and it obviously has not helped our season this year, but in football when someone gets hurt the next guy has to step up and be ready to play," said redshirt senior quarterback Drew Dudzik. "I feel that the guys who have had to step up have done a good job."

Players that stepped up to fill some of these roles were redshirt freshmen, Dae'Quan Scott, Kavon Seaton, Scott Jones and Matt Krout. Scott and Seaton made an impact as wide receivers, while Jones and Krout contributed to the offensive line.

There were many cases during the season in which the Dukes lost close games that they led at halftime, and four of the team's losses were a result of a touchdown or less.

"We have lost so many close games this year and that is hard to handle when they happen week after week," said Dudzik. "It is just frustrating for everyone on the team when we have so much talent at every position and just keep losing these close games. The losses do not define us and I feel that our team has a lot of character."

One of the team's biggest challenges throughout the season were penalties, which in some cases, lost the game for the Dukes. However, the team was able to learn from their mistakes and went on to reduce their number of penalties each week.

"We understand that certain games didn't go our way but there's no one to blame but ourselves and that has truly been a learning experience," said redshirt senior defensive tackle Ronnell Brown. "You can have the best team in the world but if you can't take care of the little things—penalties and your assignments—then the big things will suffer, such as losses."

A veteran on the team and a key component to the Dukes defense, Brown expressed one of his challenges of the season as "changing the mentality from last years team to something far and beyond something we have ever experienced."

He went on to describe the team as "a family, who bonded in many ways and definitely competed at a high level."

Despite the Duke's frustration, the team remained optimistic and continued to work hard to try and finish the year strong. Coach Mickey Matthews continued to have faith in the future of his program, regardless of the team's back-to-back losing seasons.

"When you lose, you probably over-evaluate, and when you win, you probably under-evaluate," said Matthews.

With unexpected injuries and obstacles resulting in many disappointing games, the Dukes were able to make this season a learning experience in order to improve in the future.

The team's dramatic entrance using fog machines and the marching band hypes up students attending the football games. Students cheered loudly as the team took to the gridiron.

Photo by Leslie Haase

SCOREBOARD

jmU-Opponent

Morehead State 48-7
Virginia Tech 21-16
Liberty 10-3
Delaware 10-13
Towson 17-13
New Hampshire 14-28
Villanova 14-21
Massachusetts 14-21
Richmond 10-13
William & Mary 30-24
Maine 14-10

Features 299
Sophomore Ryan Vince lines his ball up with the hole before setting it on the tee. Vince's attention to detail allowed him to drive the ball better. 

Senior Matthew Neely grimaces after swinging and seeing where his ball goes. Although the sand pit was a difficult area to conquer, Neely drove his ball uphill.

Sophomore Spotlight
Ryan Vince
Sophomore
Kinesiology
Charlotte, N.C.

Statistics:
Career rounds - 17
Career strokes - 1,264
Stroke average - 74.4

Honors:
• Record three top-17 finishes
• Team leader in scoring average
• Tied for third at the Richmond Intercollegiate

Senior Spotlight
Matthew Neely
Senior
Kinesiology
Ashland, Va.

Statistics:
Career rounds - 58
Career strokes - 1,318
Stroke average - 75.8

Honors:
• Two top-20 finishes
• Tied for 17 at VCU Shootout
• Tied for ninth at the Richmond Intercollegiate
The men's golf team matured during the fall when six of the nine members came back to school as upperclassmen.

"We are much more competitive this year and we have much more leadership," said junior Christopher Wellde.

While each teammate played the tournaments individually, their scores were added together for the team's final score.

"You want to do the best you possibly can, but if my teammates aren't doing as well, Coach tells me so I can step it up," said Wellde.

In order to improve the team's overall score, Wellde took more risks by going for birdies, instead of going for par. A par is the average number of strokes a golfer should take for each hole, and a birdie is one stroke less.

"Some guys don't want to know if the team is doing badly, because it adds more pressure, but I like the pressure. It doesn't really bother me," said Wellde.

Together the team worked on consistency at tournaments. "Sometimes only the first guys will do well, but it is important to have all five guys put up good scores," said Wellde.

All five players did put up good scores at the 2010 Richmond Intercollegiate on Oct. 9 and 10, where the team placed second to the host team.

"We almost beat Richmond at their own game, and they are the best team we see a lot in tournaments," said senior Matthew Neely.

To be consistent, each player had to recognize his strengths and work on his weaknesses. Neely said each player had a "different game."

As a whole, the team worked on their chipping and putting during the fall season in the new golfing facility the team shared with the women's golf team.

"The most important part of the entire game is chipping and putting," said Wellde. "I think if we bring our putting average up and keep everything else the same, then we will have a run at the National Collegiate Athletic Association conference in the spring."

The team was also looking forward to its first tournament in the spring, which was held at TPC Sawgrass in Florida. Junior Michael Smith lived 2 minutes away from the course. For the past two years, some of the team went down the week after finals to watch the PGA player's champion.

"Usually about half the team goes to the tournament," said Neely. "It was really good last year."
Freshman Sara Stanley puts all her strength into her swing. The golf coaches worked with the women on their swinging techniques.

Freshman Ginger Mak watches her ball roll, hoping it falls in the hole. Mak traveled from Hong Kong to attend the university and participate on the golf team.

Junior Spotlight
Nicole Sakamoto
Junior
Dietetics
Honolulu, Hawaii

Statistics:
Career rounds – 60
Career strokes – 4,597
Stroke average – 76.6

Honors:
• First team All-CAA
• Three time CAA Player of the Week
• Six top-10 finishes
• Finished second at CAA Championships

Freshman Spotlight
Ginger Mak
Freshman
Justice Studies
Hong Kong, China

Statistics:
Scoring average – 76.88 strokes

Honors:
• Finished 13 in Lady Paladin Intercollegiate
• Tied for 30 at Mercedes-Benz Women's Championship

Senior Laura Mesa completes her follow-through and watches her ball fall to the ground. Mesa competed in 10 events in her junior season.

Photo by [sports media]
Although golf is traditionally played as an individual sport, seven women made up the golf team at the university.

“We try to beat everyone on the team, but to beat the other teams, we all have to do well,” said senior Laura Mesa.

Two freshmen were welcomed onto the team this year. The team had to compete against each other to qualify to play in each tournament because only five women were able to compete.

“Qualifying is new this year, which has changed the team and made us more competitive,” said senior Catrin Gunnarsson.

The two additions to the team were Ginger Mak, an international student from Hong Kong, and Sara Stanley. They joined a group already marked by diversity. Mesa and another teammate, Valentina Sanmiguel, were international students from Colombia, Gunnarsson was from Sweden and junior Nicole Sakamoto was from Honolulu, Hawaii.

“A lot of college teams are diverse,” said Mesa. “Other school’s teams have a lot of international students. They are importing the talent from abroad.”

Gunnarsson came to the university to get an education and experience living in the United States.

“I’ve lived in Sweden my whole life,” said Gunnarsson. “Sometimes it’s hard to live so far away, especially if something happens at home. I’ve actually been lucky to be on a team. People are really helpful and it keeps me from being homesick.”

While the golf game is the same in every country, Gunnarsson said the biggest cultural difference in golf was her teammates’ attitudes toward the game.

“Ginger was raised in a really strict culture, she had to be perfect. Sometimes we have to tell her it’s OK if she screws up,” said Gunnarsson. When Mak was not competing, Gunnarsson said she was a happy person who brought a new energy and perspective to the team.

“Since we are an individual sport, if someone does bad they react differently,” said Gunnarsson. “Cultures don’t play a huge part in that aspect. We have to get to know the person to know how they will react.”

The team was not always able to see each other play, especially when they were more focused on their own games.

Their coach, Paul Gooden, helped each player improve their technique.

“He also works with us on mental things. He used to tell us ‘Golf is 90 percent mental,’” said Mesa.

She said that one of the biggest problems was when a player would second-guess herself.

“We have to commit to each shot,” said Mesa.

Gunnarsson added that Gooden adapted his coaching to each player. The team practiced at the Lakeview golf course and a relatively new indoor facility when it rained. The facility had a chipping green and video cameras to help the team improve their short game.

“I’d say our short game is one of our biggest weaknesses. Our short game is] the last part of each hole, when you are around the green, chipping and putting,” said Gunnarsson.

Since we are an individual sport, if someone does bad they react differently, said Gunnarsson. “Cultures don’t play a huge part in that aspect. We have to get to know the person to know how they will react.”

The team looked forward to their spring conferences, in particular returning to the final National Collegiate Athletic Association conference where they previously came in second to Georgia State.

“This year, the freshmen have made us a stronger team,” said Mesa. “Our goal is to beat Georgia State.”

Front Row (L to R): Victoria Burch, Ginger Mak, Laura Mesa, Catrin Gunnarsson, Valentina Sanmiguel, Sara Stanley

Back Row (L to R): Nicole Sakamoto, Mary Champagne

Features 303
Junior Patrick Innes waits to do a goal kick. Goal kicks allowed the team to put the ball back in play and help their chances of driving the ball to the goal.

One of the team's five goalies prepares for the other team to kick the ball toward the goal so he can block it. The goalie was the last line of defense against the opposing team scoring.

MVP
Jonathan Smithgall
Senior
Business
Fairfax, Va.

Statistics:
Games played- 42
Games started- 42
Assists- 2
Points- 2

Honors:
• Two-year starter
• Team tri-captain
• 2009 team defensive MVP
• 2009 JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete

MVP
CJ Sapong
Senior
Sports Management
Manassas, Va.

Statistics:
Goals- 34
Points- 88
Assists- 20

Honors:
• Four-year starter
• Team tri-captain
• On Hermann Trophy Watch List for National Player of the Year
• Conference (CAA) preseason Player of the Year
The men’s soccer team faced a tough loss against Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) that ended their 9-6-2 season. The game was tied up in the second period by a goal scored by freshman Steven Mashinski, but it eventually ended with a final score of 3-2.

The team returned with 8 or 9 starters, which gave them a more experienced squad compared to recent years. They anticipated respect from most of their opponents due to their offensive threats in senior team captain CJ Sapong and sophomore returning starters Paul Wyatt and Marcus Bjorkeheim. Having three different goal scoring options on the field at the same time gave starters Paul Wyatt and Marcus Bjorkeheim. Having three more experienced squad compared to recent years. They anticipated respect from most of their opponents due to their offensive threats in senior team captain CJ Sapong and sophomore returning starters Paul Wyatt and Marcus Bjorkeheim. Having three different goal scoring options on the field at the same time gave them an offensive edge that many teams lacked.

Defensively, they had question marks coming into the season. Although unable to clinch a spot in the CAA tournament, the men still had some highlights to their season. Captain Sapong was named College Soccer News national Player of the Week for the week ending Oct. 31. Sapong ended his college soccer career by earning a fifth place spot on the university’s all-time points list. "Being a captain proved an obstacle, but definitely one that I feel are more indicative of my experience with JMU soccer than the amount of Ws in the win column."
Freshman Katherine Courter blocks an attempt to score a goal. Courter brought years of experience to the soccer team from high school.

Tri-captain redshirt junior Jessica Barndt passes the ball to her teammate. Barndt made the CAA All-Tournament Team and All-CAA Third Team.

**THE SPOTLIGHT**

**MVP**

Diane Wszalek
Senior
Finance and Sports Management
West Chester, Pa.

Statistics:
Games played: 57
Games started: 56
Saves: 241
Goals allowed: 63
Shutouts: 16/22

Honors:
- Four-year starter
- School record for complete game shutouts
- Preseason All-Conference (CAA) team in 2009
- CAA Commissioner's Academic Award in 2009
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar Athlete in 2009

**MVP**

Teresa Rynier
Senior
Education
Leola, Pa.

Statistics:
Games played: 67
Games started: 63
Goals: 11
Points: 62
Assists: 40

Honors:
- On Hermann Trophy Watch List for National Player of the Year
- Preseason All-CAA team
- Conference (CAA) Player of the Week Oct. 3
- Dean's List
he women's soccer team had a strong year, finishing the regular season with a 13-6 overall record and a 9-2 record in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).

They finished the regular season out strong with a six game winning streak as they entered into the conference tournament. Expectations and nerves were naturally high as the team traveled to Hempstead, N.Y., for the CAA tournament.

The tournament hosted the top four teams from the regular season, and the Dukes entered the tournament with the No. 2 seed. The team's first opponent in the semifinal round of the tournament was George Mason University, whom they beat 3-0 earlier in the season. As the game unfolded, the Dukes were down 1-0 at halftime. The team came out strong in the second half and was able to tie the game up. The tied score at the end of regulation time sent the game into penalty kicks where the Dukes were able to secure a 6-5 victory and a place in the final match-up.

In the final round of the tournament, the team faced Hofstra University, the No. 1 seed in the tournament. Hofstra was on an 18-game winning streak and was undefeated in the conference. The "I think this year has been filled with fun and good soccer," said senior midfielder Teresa Ryner. "This team has so many great players and everything else has been made complete with a CAA championship."

This year's team had a notable number of achievements, both as a team and as individuals. With the CAA Championship and the automatic spot in the NCAA tournament, the team was one of only two teams representing the CAA in the NCAA tournament.

In addition, the graduating seniors, which included midfielder Teresa Ryner, forward Catie Tisinger, defender Corinna Strickland and goalkeeper Diane Wszalek, had a record breaking couple of seasons as both a team and as individuals.

As a result, the team sought revenge in this conference tournament match-up. In a solid game, the Dukes attained the revenge they'd been looking for and defeated Hofstra 2-0. With this win, the team also scored a spot in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament.

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Before the game, the women's volleyball team meets in a huddle for last minute encouragement. Encouraging words brought the team together and enhanced their ability to communicate on the floor.

Red Shirt sophomore Danielle Erb plays the net trying to block the ball from getting past her. Techniques like this helped the volleyball team get closer to the Colonial Athletic A Championships.

Sophomore Natalie Abel spikes the ball back over the net. Abel's dedication led her to success on the team.

MVP
Lindsay Callahan
Senior
Media Arts & Design
Virginia Beach, Va.

Statistics:
- Matches played - 25
- Matches started - 25
- Kills - 298
- Aces - 29
- Digs - 200

Honors:
- Ranked third in school history in kills (1,305)
- CAA Player of the Week (Sept. 13)
- JMU Days Inn Invitational MVP
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athlete
- Dean's List

Most Improved
Natalie Abel
Sophomore
Media Arts & Design
Washington, Pa.

Statistics:
- Matches played - 24
- Matches started - 23
- Kills - 176
- Assists - 14
- Digs - 262

Honors:
- CAA Defensive Player of the Week (Aug. 30)
- Country Inn & Suites All-Tournament Team
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athlete
- Dean's List
With just one loss at home, the volleyball team had a major turnaround from its troublesome 2009 season.

The team ended the season with 22 wins and only eight losses. Heading into the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) championship tournament with a firm second-place slot, team members felt confident that the fall season played out strong.

“As a unit, we were a lot stronger,” said senior middle blocker Jessica Zeroual. “Everybody on the team was a lot stronger, a lot faster, could jump a lot higher, could swing a lot harder. Everybody just seemed to have it all together.”

Along with Zeroual, senior setter Lauren Fanelli said the team’s mentality was a big factor in how the season panned out in terms of winning matches.

Fanelli said the biggest change was “just knowing that it’s never the end until it’s the last point, and we actually believe it, because we don’t give up.”

Not only did the team change their attitude, they also gained an entirely new coaching staff.

“They believe in us, and I feel like that has been the biggest turnaround,” said sophomore outside hitter Danielle Erb. “Since they believe in us, we believe in ourselves, and that has been the biggest change.”

Fanelli agreed that the coaching staff put a lot of effort into practices. “They love what they do and it reflects,” said Fanelli.

The team’s biggest rival, George Mason University, posed the greatest challenge early on in the season when the Dukes lost three games at George Mason. A month later, with the team’s standings hinged on the outcome of the game, the Dukes came back to win the five set matchup at home.

Many of the team members had outstanding performances, bypassing some of their own records for kills and digs. Freshman defensive specialist Kaitlyn Daorai achieved a career-high 31 digs against George Mason in their second matchup of the season. Senior right side outside hitter Lindsay Callahan, hit the 900-dig mark against William & Mary in October. Early on in the season, during the matchup against Davidson, Erb hit 20 kills for the first time in the program’s history since 2007.

Head coach Lauren Steinbrecher expected the team to do very well because of their talent and senior leadership. She watched the team progress from week to week, striving to win each match.

Steinbrecher said the biggest thing the team learned was “believing in how good they can be and going out and proving it.”

**SCOREBOARD**

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312 men's basketball
314 women's basketball
316 swim & dive
Redshirt sophomore Devon Moore lines up his shot during a crucial free throw. Moore was one of the leading free throw scorers on the team.

photo by (sports media)

The Dukes battle for a rebound during a home game against Old Dominion University. Though they were defeated by six points, the team remained strong throughout the rest of the season.

photo by (sports media)

MVP

Denzel Bowles
Senior
Justice Studies
Virginia Beach, Va.

Statistics:
- Games played: 25
- Games started: 25
- Field Goal percentage: .594
- Total rebounds: 230

Honors:
- Preseason First Team All-CAA
- MVP of CBE Classic Harrisonburg Subregional
- CAA Co-Player of the Week
- Set university and Convocation Center records for free throw percentage

Junior Spotlight

Julius Wells
Junior
Social Justice
Toledo, Ohio

Statistics:
- Games played: 69
- Games started: 67
- Free Throw percentage: .695
- Defensive Rebounds: 302

Honors:
- Preseason Second Team All-CAA
- 24 player in university's history to score 1,000 points
- Season-high 15 points at Georgia State
The men's basketball team had high hopes during the 2010-2011 season. Even though junior guard Anthony "Humpty" Hitchens transferred to the university this past year, he felt like all of the players connected and came together to vie for a win each game.

"Even though we argue with each other, get mad at each other, at the end of the day it's all fun and games," said Hitchens. "I like just the chemistry and how well we came together in just one year."

The season started strong with a nine-game winning streak that ended in a close matchup at Old Dominion University (ODU) on Jan. 19. The following weeks were scattered with wins and losses as the team fought for a spot in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Championship tournament during the first weekend in March.

"A lot of people may look at it and say we're making history," said Hitchens. "I wouldn't say I'm too overly astounded by it because we've got a lot of tough losses that we should've won."

Redshirt sophomore forward Andrey Semenov said what made the season hard were the matchups against George Mason University, ODU and Hofstra University.

"The top six or seven teams are very competitive, comparable to each other strength-wise, talent-wise," said Semenov. "Every night it's a dog fight."

Hitchens said a lot of the games came down to the last few minutes in terms of which team would come away with a win. He didn't think that having a couple of losses toward the end of the season made other teams' impression of the university's team any different.

"I feel like we still have a target on our back and teams are out to beat us," said Hitchens.

The team's ultimate goal was to win the CAA Championship tournament and hopefully qualify for a first-round bye week.

"You never expect to lose every game you play. You expect to win," said Semenov. "We're not the underdog or neither we are the favorites to win it either."

Next on the players' agenda was to hopefully qualify for March Madness — the NCAA Championship tournament. Hitchens was the only player on the roster who had been to the tournament before.

"There's nothing like going to the NCAA tournament. There's a lot of publicity, a lot of people look up to you," said Hitchens. "You fight all these games in the preseason, all the ones in the regular season... to try and win the NCAA National tournament."

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**SCOREBOARD**

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Front Row (L to R): manager Muhammad Darab, Chad Jackson, Kevin McCaughhey, Julies Wells, Devon Moore, Ben Louis, James Millen, Andre Prince, Humpty Hitchens, manager Chris Gurren, manager Sam Dowell. Second Row (L to R): associate head coach Rob O'Drisco, graduate assistant Patrick Massarani, athletic trainer John Kaltenbom, Payshawn Coles, Andrey Semenov, Denzel Bowles, head coach Matt Brady, Trevon Flores, Allsunne Dlouf, A.J. Davis, assistant coach Louis Rowe, assistant coach Corey Sluzel, director of operations Kevin Hargrove.
Waiting to shoot a foul shot, senior Dawn Evans looks to the referee for the final call. Evans set a new school record for career points with 2,528 points.

Attacking her opponent, senior Jalissa Taylor attempts to block a shot and get the ball back. The Dukes won 71-61 in the game against Towson.

**THESPOTLIGHT**

### MVP
Dawn Evans  
Senior  
Health Sciences  
Clarksville, Tenn.

**Statistics:**  
- Total points: 1,906  
- Total rebounds: 237  
- Free Throw average: .805  
- Game Started: 87

**Honors:**  
- School record for points in a single game (42)  
- School record career points  
- CAA and school record three-pointers made

### Senior Spotlight
Lauren Jimenez  
Senior  
Kinesiology  
North Bergen, NJ

**Statistics:**  
- Games played: 74  
- Games Started: 15  
- Total rebounds: 345  
- Total points: 590

**Honors:**  
- CAA All-Tournament Team  
- JMU Invitational All-Tournament Team  
- Third on team for scoring and rebounding (2009-2010)
Pressure was on the university's women's basketball team from the beginning. The team had won the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) championship and went on to the National Colonial Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament during the previous year. Although the women did not succeed as well in the NCAA tournament, it was their mission to return this year.

While the tournament was on the team's mind the whole season, they first had to play 33 games beginning in November, continuing to just before the CAA championships from March 10-13 in Upper Marlboro, Md. To get there, the team rallied around the leadership of senior Dawn Evans. This season alone, Evans broke multiple school and CAA records including the university's single game points, career points and career free throws.

Evans also broke the CAA's record for three pointers made and attempted that night in a game against the University of Virginia.

"The UVA game was a very big game. We had been struggling up and down that game was kind of a break out point. It established the momentum we have," said junior Kanita Shepherd.

At the same time the team was gaining momentum, they also lost Shepherd when she tore her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) during practice. Shepherd had surgery on Jan. 5 and was bench for the rest of the season. Instead of practicing with the team, she had to use the time for rehab.

"They were really supportive... when I was at my lowest point, they kept me up," said Shepherd.

Shepherd's injury weakened the team, which was lacking in numbers. Jasmine Gill, a red-shirt junior transfer student from Boston College, was also unable to play, which decreased the team's numbers. However Shepherd and Gill were still able to provide emotional support for their team.

"We play off adrenaline, cheering for each other. If we have a lot of emotion, we have more energy and we are more motivated to go out and play," said Shepherd.

As a whole, the team worked on being more consistent in every game. The team had only one conference loss to Old Dominion University on Jan. 9, and only six losses overall. Motivation and energy also came from the support of the student and Harrisonburg community.

"We really appreciate how much support we have, especially compared to other schools," said Shepherd. "We are going to get that championship again."
our years ago, the women’s swim and dive team won ninth place at their end of season Conference Athletic Association (CAA) conference meet. Three years ago they were seventh, two years ago they were fifth and last year they were third. In order to complete this progression, the team would have to win first place at the CAA championships that took place from Feb. 23-25 at George Mason University.

“This year we want to win. It’s there, we’re hungry, and it defined our training because we want it and we know we can do it,” said senior Emily Konieczny.

Although the team trained six days a week and competed in 18 meets throughout the year, the team’s placement at the end of season meet was the most important.

“Toward the end of the season we felt we were a good team,” said senior Erika Lupacchino.

Every year the team goes on a training trip to Boca Raton, FL during winter break. While the setting was different and the weather was nicer, the trip was not a vacation.

“It sounds nice, but it’s not. It’s practice,” said Lupacchino. “It’s a defining moment because we see everyone at their worst and from there you become stronger as a team.”

The team trained the entire week, with only an afternoon off during the seven days in Florida. The team benefited from the outdoor training in the Olympic size pool. Other schools also trained with them such as Ohio State, Miami of Ohio, and all the schools had a meet together at the end of the training week.

Throughout the semester, the team trained with the help and support of head coach, Sam Smith, the head coach, Dane Pedersen the assistant coach and Becky Benson, the diving coach. Throughout the training, the team focused on working as a team rather than as individual swimmers.

“We want to be one unit, one family and we want to be number one,” said Konieczny.

The team of 30 spent most of their time together both in the pool and out.

“I think people underestimate exactly how close we are...I [almost] can’t imagine doing anything without one of them,” said Konieczny.

In September, the team went to Reddish Knob where they watched a sunrise and worked on team bonding. The team welcomed the freshmen, spent time getting to know each other better and went over goals they had for the year.

The team also participated in community service around Harrisonburg such as the Care First Children’s Festival, where they ran a dunk tank. Thomas Moran, a professor in the Kinesology department, also helped the teamwork with children with disabilities. Some of the children had Down Syndrome or physical disabilities and the girls played in the pool.

“We had toys and noodles, some of the kids were more advanced and so we had races with them or jumps off the diving board,” said Konieczny.

The main competition in their final CAA championships was Towson University who had won the championship for the past four years. The university’s team met with Towson only a month prior to the team’s senior night. The girls hosted a dual meet with Towson and Loyola on Jan. 22 in Harrisonburg. In the end Towson edged out the university’s team by one race.

“It came down to the very last relay of the meet and they out-touched us by a little bit,” said senior Lisa Colapietra.

Although the team was excited to race against Towson again at the CAA championships, Colapietra said even without a win, the team had a reason to be proud.

“I just want people to be happy with our success...we’ve improved every single year since I’ve been here and I think if we continue that, it’s something to be proud of,” said Colapietra.

### Senior Spotlight
Lisa Colapietra
Senior
Kinesiology
Hollidaysburg, Pa.

**Statistics:**
- First place in 50 Freestyle against Marshall
- Second place in 100 Breaststroke against Navy
- First place in 200 Breaststroke

**Honors:**
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athlete
- CAA Commissioner’s Academic Award recipient

Jessie Everett
Senior
IDLS
Arlington, Va.

**Statistics:**
- First place in 1-meter Diving
- First place in 3-meter Diving

**Honors:**
- JMU Athletic Director Scholar-Athlete
- CAA Diver of the Week
- 19 in overall points earned at CAA Championships
During practice, a swim and dive team member swims the Butterfly. The team was 10-5 for the season.

Diving into the Godwin pool, a swim and dive team member practices her dive. The team was 4-2 in the Colonial Athletic Association.

The swim and dive team races each other during practice. The team trained six days a week for meets.

SCOREBOARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>128-178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>125-175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason</td>
<td>219-86</td>
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<td>Duquesne</td>
<td>264-83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>173-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Charleston</td>
<td>294-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>William &amp; Mary</td>
<td>208-145</td>
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<td>Old Dominion</td>
<td>192-161</td>
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<td>149-158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>145-94</td>
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in closing
TO THE UNDERCLASSMEN, WE HOPE that you set the TONE so that the university can continue to CHANGE and GROW.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE OUR community a better place, whether you're here at the UNIVERSITY OR MOVING FORWARD.

As graduates PREPARE to move on from the university, WE HOPE THAT YOU SET YOUR OWN TONE in life, one that REFLECTS your time here.
Filled with Madison pride, students supported the athletic teams with “Purple Out” days and purple sections at games. Football games saw support in the packed student section. 

photo courtesy {callista grozalis}

Newly admitted freshmen gather in the Convocation Center for the Orientation pep rally. During the pep rally, the First year Orientation Guides (FROGs) did the annual FROG dance and freshmen were encouraged to sing the JMU Fight song. 

photo courtesy {jmu photography services}

Closing } 321
Students enjoy their lunches in the Festival food court as construction continues on the new biosciences building. The new building would relocate the biology department in Burrius hall on west campus to east campus, closer to other sciences and mathematics buildings. 

Students participate in a crop mob at Wildside Farm. The group helped owner Andrew Shaeter build a cement tractor bridge. 

Students flock to Bridgeforth Stadium after the football team’s victory at Virginia Tech on Sept. 11. Students cheered on passers-by as they made their way to the impromptu celebration.
Students cheer and throw purple and gold streamers in celebration of touchdown during a home football game. The university resorted to digital tickets for the student section that could be downloaded onto JAC cards for admission.

The Marching Royal Dukes rehearse several numbers before performing in front of more than 10,000 spectators attending the weekend's football game. "Virginia's Finest" showcased their talents around the state and across the Atlantic for London's New Year's Day Parade.

Adapting to a new head coach was just one of the many challenges the squad faced during the 2010 season.

The cheerleading team leads the student section in a cheer during one of the six home football games. Adapting to a new head coach was just one of the many challenges the squad faced during the 2010 season.

photo courtesy (jmu photography services)
Players take to the field to the fight song before a home football game. The entrance encouraged students to stand up and cheer for their team.

photo courtesy (jmu photography services)

A variety of pumpkins and gourds sit on display at the Harrisonburg Farmer's market. Students and community members alike visited the market to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, homemade baked goods and hand-made arts and crafts.

photo courtesy (morgan wing)

Wilson Hall and its cupola are symbols of the school as well as a place of gathering. Students used the hall for events, taking pictures and making memories.

photo courtesy (morgan wing)
Twelve years ago, I couldn't even greet anyone in English, never would I have imagined that I could lead an amazing group of people in the production of a college yearbook and what a year it has been. I have had the best moments and as of couple of days ago one of the most embarrassing moments all here in this small little yellow room in the basement of Roop, but we rocked it "like a G6."

From stealing pumpkins, trotting across campus with empty cartridges, to shaking it like a Polaroid picture, there was no rest for us Bluestone's. I will treasure every moment spent staring at the large computer monitors until my eyeballs morphed into mush, every sleepless night spent on craps-man-s-t for Professor Voldemort, and that one epic night I earned the right to say “Cuz I'm da Boss.”

I was extremely fortunate to gather some of the most talented, funny, and genuinely kind individuals for ed-board this year. You guys have truly made my senior year unforgettable.

To Matt, pronounced Matt, never eat a banana standing up on one leg. That's all. Amanda, you are the official "Captions Queen," and well the official 2012 Editor-in-Chief,” but I like "Captions Queen" better. Lisl, I am going to need you to bake me cookies for the rest of my life...mrmthanks. Alicia and Nora, thank you girls for putting up with our craziness during deadline weekends.

Suyi Moon, the Korean Superhero, always stay “Black and Yellow,” you know what I mean. From the first class we had together sophomore year, I knew I would be the sun to your moon. You have been there for me every step of the way. Remember that time we laughed so hard we couldn't breathe or that time we sprinted across the quad screaming our lungs out just because... yea I am going to miss those moments.

To my third Musketeer, Anna Thompson, I am glad I will have another semester to bask in your glory. I am also glad I overlooked the fact that I was a total creeper when I said “Hey, I saw you on the bus, want to be friends?” But aren't you glad you said yes. What an amazing three years it has been getting to know you and I am glad I was able to rope you into designing for The Bluestone for at least one of those years. I am going to overlook being a creeper one last time and ask “Want to be friends forever?” Say yes.

Kristi Clemons, you truly are a “G.” Well a gangster that's an avid country music fan. You truly are an oxymoron and I love you for that. I will never forget web design and your inappropriately hilarious comments. I wish you the most amazing elopement; you couldn't have found a more perfect fiancé. Also, chocolicious (see paragraph below.)

To my partner in crime, Kirsten Joseph, AKA Kursten, please watch where your London Bridge falls down. What haven't we been through? I am going to miss your snoring, your utter cluelessness and your klutziness. Remember the time you locked yourself out of the office and the time you shut the car door on your purse in the same day? Or that time we almost died for the sake of "sketch and cool," and that impressive dodger night we met chocolicious. Meeting you was the one good thing that came out of working at CISAT. I am going to miss the nights your filter just fell off the face of the earth and you yelling "WHAT JUST HAPPENED?" repeatedly. Here are a few things I will never forget; Facebook saved your life, my chin typing skills totally impress you and that you want me to love you like a hot pie.

Also thanks for the support I got from my special party panda, my good friends Callie McLean and Gabby Piccinini for listening to all my rants these past few years.

And how could I forget my family. I love you all so much; you have been the most amazing support system. To my twin sister Madina, thank you for putting up with all the yearbook craziness; I don't think all that mooching off our printers could equal the love and patience you have shown me this year. To my best friend and sister Shar, I can't believe I survived our separation but I'm coming back soon, you're still letting me live off you right? To my mom and dad, you guys are just too good to be true. I am so fortunate to have you as parents. You guys have always looked out for me and let me grow as an individual and now it's my turn to give back, just keep a look out for it, it's coming sooner or later. I love you guys.

Well, this has been a life lesson and an unforgettable experience and I am going to miss everyone. But I can say in total confidence that there is one thing I will not miss; the ghetto cinder blocks under the printer. That's it. I quit.

-Parvina Mamatova
Editor-in-Chief
Summer 2007.
I graduated from high school.
My college life at James Madison University started.

“3 more years of studying?? Are you kidding me??” that is how I felt when I started my college career, and now I can almost see the end. In my last semester at JMU, I just realized that nothing is more fun and meaningful than college life. It is sad that this will be coming to an end so soon, and I am going to miss all of my friends and all the memories we created in school.

Before this chapter of my life ends however, I was offered a position in Bluestone Yearbook, as a creative director. Working with computer monitors during deadline weekends until my brain malfunctioned, getting into a fender-bender during our second deadline weekend (which by the way I got into a lot of trouble with my dad), falling down from the couches while eating pizza in the conference room, taking organization photos with Amanda (to which lot of organizations didn’t even show up, going out for fun dinners with the ed-board and seeing “Tipsy Matt,” munching on the amazingly delicious cookies that Lis! and Amanda baked, listening to “Like a G6” over and over again during deadline (because it was one of my favorites), and finding errors on spreads after having turned in the spreads for printing. I’m going to miss all of these. Well… actually not all of them.

It was quite hard and stressful at times, but the people who helped me through this are the reason I was able to accomplish my role. Thanks to Bluestoner’s: Lis!, Amanda, Matt, Beth, Nora, and Alicia. Good Job! We made it!! My Awesome Designers: Kristi, Kaitlyn, Cherylin, and Jeremy. Because you guys were my ideal designers, I was able to take on this position and enjoy it too. My roomies: Callie and Gaby, and my best friends: Parvina (Parvina), Ms. Thompson (Anna) and Big K (Kristin). Thank you so much for supporting me and helping me out when I was in need. And to those who were always there for me: my family, my boyfriend Yunwoo, and the reason I am breathing for, Nahyung <3. There are a ton more people that I am thankful to, and you know who you are. Right! ;P “wink wink”.

I miss my insanely fun freshman year, having an amazing time with my crew: MinSun, SungBin, SooYoun, YoungJoo, WooJoo, JooSung, Angela, and Sang. I am glad that I met you guys in freshman year, and that we were able to maintain our close friendship. Lately I have missed out on all that fun we used to have every weekend, but you know I love you all so much. Also SoYoung and Soeun, you guys are and have always been good friends to me. Thank you so much <3

In writing this good-bye letter, I got really emotional but also happy that there are so many people I can be thankful for. I hope we keep in touch with each other forever! Facebook friend me and let me know if you can hire me as a graphic designer or an entertainer, haha. No, seriously. I might be still be unemployed when you hear from me later, so HIRE ME!!!

It’s been a lot of fun at JMU and I’m going to miss it, but I am sure I will always find fun in the “Real World” too. So I will keep this experience as a memory that I can remember and rely on whenever I am down.

Summer 2011.
I am going to graduate from college.
And I will take my first steps onto the Real World.

-Susy Moon
Creative Director
One time in church my aunt leaned over to tell me that my parents had conceived me while on vacation in Nags Head. Eighteen years after that night in Nags Head, I attended James Madison University. It’s now four years later and I’m graduating. This sucks. It really sucks. How am I going to find a job in this economy? I’m going to have to be a janitor at some public school, and I can’t do that public restrooms freak me out ever since I used that rest stop when I was 12 and the place was out of toilet paper. Anyways, I need a job, so if anyone is hiring let me know.

Also, I want to give some parting words to some people for the best, past four years of my life. Megan Kogut, thanks for being the sexiest woman here at the university. Emily Samulski, go hug a tree. Preferably that one on the quad. You know which one. Dominic Lombardo, thanks for introducing me to Nazi Zombies, which ultimately resulted in me not studying for that test and failing. To Parvina Mamatova, pronounced Mamatova, never eat a banana standing up on one leg. To Glenda Cosby, the Village is the best area, and that’s a fact because now it’s in print, and everything printed is true. To Susy Moon, you better not write your letter in Korean. To the producers of “LOST,” couldn’t you have done one more season? Or at least a spin-off with Hurley and Ben running the island. It could have been a half-hour comedy. Why, WHY DID YOU HAVE TO END IT. To Amanda Caskey, drink. To Lisl Magboo, I like “Legally Blonde” too. Beth Principi, one day I will knock all those curls out of your hair. One day. Also, let’s go back to New Orleans. I have to see you pour that drink on that guys head again.

Finally, I want to thank my parents for that night in Nags Head. I’ve seriously had the best life so far, and I kind of owe that all to you crazy kids. But seriously, thanks for everything, I wouldn’t be where I am today without you. You guys are the most humble, caring people I know. I hope I can be just like that when I finally grow up. Also, anyway I can stay on your health insurance for a couple more years?

The past two years on the Bluestone editorial board have been great. From editing great articles to relentless flirting with Sarah Chais, it’s been a great experience. It’s also been a learning experience. I never want to be a copy editor.

Thanks for the memories JMU. It’s been fun.

Matthew Johnson
Copy Editor
Thank God. We did it you guys. No more late nights all alone (or so we thought) in Roop. No more 2-hour dinner breaks at B-Dubbs. No more Pandora channels, homemade cookies, inappropriate comments or Chik-Fil-A. You know what I’m going to miss most? Hearing Parvina’s life story. Amazing.

But in all seriousness, this year was incredible. I had a lot of fun (most of the time) and there is no other group of people I’d like to spend so much time with. Thank you for all your hard work to make (what I think will be) a great book.

Parvina- You’ve been the best editor in chief in the world and I hate that you don’t think so. You’ve been such a big help, both in dealing with Matt and also actual yearbook stuff as well. I don’t know how I’m going to do this next year, but I’m just glad I’ve had help from you this far.

Matt- You are... a trip. I’m going to miss you being a distraction next year. All the laughter (drink), the deep conversations and the memories. Good times. Who knows, maybe you’ll be rich and famous sometime soon, or maybe we’ll both be working for my sister. Bottom line-keep your knees flexing and your arms T-Rexing.

Lisl- Gifford Reunion. You were such a big help this year and I’m going to miss not having you on staff. You make the best cookies in the world and please feel free to stop by deadline weekends next year... with cookies... you know... if you want to.

Beth- I somehow always managed to have office hours with you... and Matt. Oh well, thanks for being there with me so I had someone to look at awkwardly as Matt made some inappropriate comment.

Susy Moon- I feel the need to write your full name. Where to start. You are an amazing designer and creative director and we were so lucky to have you. You’re going to do great things, I know it. Good luck with everything in the future and please don’t stress out. Ever. Again.

Nora and Alicia- You guys are amazing. Thank you so much for writing all of those wonderful captions and laughing at my jokes. I really appreciated it. Good luck with the rest of your time at JMU and in the future.

Lauren and Julie- Thank you for being there for me when I got home from 10-hour days in the office and immediately handing me an ice-cold beverage of your own design. And I’m sorry for all the awesome things I missed because of editing that needed to be done. But just know it’s only going to get worse next year, so deal with it.

Love you guys! OH YEAH!

Dan- I like to think of this experience as just another minor speed bump in what is otherwise a near perfect relationship. Thank you for being there for me always and putting up with me. You’re amazing and I don’t give you enough credit most of the time. Thank you in advance for putting up with that crazy psycho I turn into when I’m stressed out. I love you.

My family- I’m pretty sure you guys don’t comprehend the meaning of a deadline weekend, but thank you so much for always being supportive of me. I’m sorry for all the great weekend getaways I missed because you’ll conveniently scheduled them for deadline weekends. Whatever, I’m not mad. Thank you for raising me to be the person I am today and I love you. Emily-I love you. Come live with me.

Get ready JMU. I’m coming back for Round two. It’s been (sur)real.

-Amanda Caskey
Supervising Editor
They say that your junior year in high school is the hardest of them all. Little did I know that my junior year of college would be a million times crazier. Looking back on the past three years that I have been here at James Madison University, it’s amazing to think about how much I have grown as a person. What’s even more amazing are the people I have met along the way and the opportunities that have gotten me to where I am now. With senior year just months away, it’s thrilling yet bittersweet thinking about the challenges that lie ahead.

My decision to join The Bluestone is something I’ll never regret. My experience with the staff this year is but one reminder of what hard work and dedication will get you. Although we came from all walks of the university, we were able to come together and work toward a common goal.

- Parvina – I’ve never seen someone work mad crazy hours like you—insane! I don’t think I would ever be able to do what you do. Thank you for keeping the group motivated and on track; without you, this wouldn’t be possible.
- Matt – Never will I ever make peanut butter cookies again. Ever. Have fun in Louisiana!
- Susy – You never fail to put a smile on my face! I will miss you next year and your wall of quotes. “Like a G6” will forever be your anthem!
- Amanda – Good luck next year, BOSS! I know you’ll do great things and I can’t wait to see what you have lined up.

Finally, to all my amazing friends and Delta Delta Delta sisters: I love each and every one of you! My college experience wouldn’t be complete without you all and I’m so blessed to have such an incredible support system. Delta Nation all day, every day—if ya don’t know, NOW ya know!

-Lisl Marie Magboo
Managing Editor
The Bluestone has given me so much over the past three years, and it is hard to believe it is all coming to an end. Working on the editorial board has come with some of the highest highs and lowest lows of my college career, but through it all I have made lifelong friends.

To this year’s editorial board, thank you. We have all been on the same journey, with the same ups and downs, and there’s nobody else I would have wanted to share this experience with. I am happy to be able to call you my friends.

To Parvina and Matt, who have been by my side for two years on the editorial board, I am glad we have reached the end together. Parvina, you have done nothing but inspired me since I met you. I know you will do great things in the future, and this book is a testament to that. Matt, I could have never foreseen the great times we would have when I first met you. You are a great person and even better friend, and I cannot wait for our second trip to New Orleans, whenever that may be. Thank you for the great memories.

Throughout my time at The Bluestone, there has always been a support team to go home to, and I could not be more grateful. To Ellen, Kelly, Maggie and Maria, you have done more than you will ever know. Thank you for putting up with me. We have been together since freshman year, and the fact that you haven’t gotten sick of me is quite impressive. I love you girls.

And where would I be without my friends from home? You are more family than friends. At first, the thought of not being together everyday was a scary one, having been together for so long. But I have seen what great people you have grown into, and I am so proud of all of you. You have supported me through everything, and I know I could have never done it without you girls. I can’t wait for us all to be together again. San Diego here we come!

And last but certainly not least, is my family. Mom and Dad, there are no words to say how thankful I am for everything you have done for me. To have parents that love and support you unconditionally is a blessing, and it’s what got me to where I am today. You are not only my parents but also my best friends. I love you both, and thank you for all you do. And to Jacque, my big sister and best friend, thank you. I envy your passion for teaching, and I know you are going to the most amazing teacher. Never give up; you deserve everything you have worked your whole life towards.

I am so thankful to be surrounded by such amazing people. Without you, this experience would not have been the same. As I move on to a new chapter in life, I bring with me all the memories and friends I have made along the way. I don’t know what comes next; buy whatever it is, I am sure it’s going to be a fun journey.

-Elizabeth Principi
Photography Editor
LETTERS FROM THE EDITORS

{NORA BOLLINGER}

Although a mere sophomore and newbie yearbook member, I tremendously enjoyed my time spent in Roop G6—which says a lot for a tiny square, windowless basement, with baby-food colored wallpaper. Despite the exhaustion that set in after six plus hours of typing away, the yearbook room always managed to remain entertaining and lively. My favorite nights? Those when drunken sleepiness set in and songs about being “tranquil as a forest but a fire within” or “whipping hair back and forth” filled the congested room. Or jokes about past members and editors reminded me of The Bluestone’s impressive history. As for those graduating seniors laying their yearbook days to rest, I wish you luck in the professional world. I have faith that you all will do well. After all, once you survive a deadline weekend, you’re prepared for anything.

Thank you, Parvina, for leading our board to a successful conclusion. I look forward to treasuring and sharing this bright yellow chapter of JMU’s history. And thank you, Amanda, for stepping up to the editor in chief challenge for next year.

I’m lucky—I still have two more years to live at James Madison and I plan to enjoy them. I know that the 2011-2012 school year only promises more excitement as I continue to pursue my love for writing.

-Nora Bollinger
Producer

{ALICIA SMITH}

This year was my first year working on The Bluestone and it was an awesome experience. The editorial board members were welcoming, helpful and hilarious as well. Coming into this organization I imagined something more like Rory Gilmore’s experience in “Gilmore Girls” with uptight editors and intense writers. I was proved wrong, however, as every meeting and deadline was interesting and fun. Every member brought a unique personality to the board, allowing us all to stay relaxed as we put the book together. Laughter was a common noise heard throughout the office with its horrid gold walls. Although we had a lot of fun, the things I have learned about putting together a book and each individual person’s role in its creation were most valuable. Each member of the board worked hard and long to put together this book that we are presenting to the school. I hope for the best in the future to all of the graduating seniors who deserve nothing short of great success. Thank you each for welcoming the newcomers and showing us what it takes to put together a wonderful publication!

-Alicia Smith
Producer
STAFF & CONTRIBUTING

{DESIGNERS}

KRISTIN JOSEPH
JEREMY COHEN
KRISTI CLEMONS

{PHOTOGRAPHERS}

GARETH HERMANN
SUN SHIM
ASHLEY CREECH
DANIELLE STRICKLER
LESLIE HAAS

{WRITERS}

SARAH LOCKWOOD
KALEIGH SOMERS
ALLISON KILLAM
JULIA KRAMER
2011 COLOPHON

{PRODUCTION}

The 2011 Bluesrone, volume 102, was created by a student staff and proudly printed by Taylor Publishing Company and Kimori presses at their Dallas, Texas facility. The 352 pages, which cover March 2010 to March 2011, were submitted on compact disc and on the Internet using Macintosh versions of Adobe InDesign CS4 and Microsoft Word 2008. Photographs were edited using Adobe Photoshop. Graphics were created with Adobe Illustrator. Tammy Bailey and Ashby Pollard served as publishing representatives and Glenn Russell and Pam Ringold as the account executive.

{THEME}

Parvina Mamatova, Matthew Johnson and Amanda Cuskey developed the theme, tone. Susy Moon, Lisl Marie Maglow and Beth Princip were also involved in brainstorming and selecting the theme.

{COVER AND ENDSHEETS}

Designed by Susy Moon, creative director, in collaboration with Parvina Mamatova, editor in chief, the cover material is Yellow #226 with a text emboss application. The endsheets were printed with ink on one side, including full bleed on all sides. Enewsheet paper stock is 65 pound cover weight and the content paper is 100-pound dull enamel.

{DESIGN}

Susy Moon designed the dividers, title pages and accompanying graphics. Parvina Mamatova designed the closing and index. Susy Moon and Parvina Mamatova designed the theme pages. Kristin Joseph, Kristi Clemons, Jeremy Cohen, Cheryl Tiefel, and Kaitlyn DiGangi helped design the student life features, academics and varsity sports sections. All section design, layout and typography was finalized by Susy Moon and Parvina Mamatova.

{TYPOGRAPHY}

Type styles used in the 2011 Bluesrone included the Great Escape and Adobe Caslon Pro font families. Body copy is Adobe Caslon Pro Regular 8.5 pt with 11 leading. Subheadlines within the student life, academics and varsity sports section are in Great Escape Light 18 pt with 20 pt leading. All photo captions are written in Great Escape Book 7 pt by 8 pt leading and all bylines are 10 pt Great Escape Light.

{PHOTOGRAPHY}

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs were taken by the Bluesrone staff and contributing photographers. Portraits in the academics section were taken by Candid Color Photography of Woodbridge, Va. Group photographs in the organizations section were taken in collaboration by the editorial board. Sports Media relations provided all athletic photos, unless otherwise noted. All digital photos were taken on a Nikon D60, Nikon D3000m, Canon Digital Rebel XT I or Fuji S6000.

{ORGANIZATIONS}

Pages within the organization section were purchased by the featured groups. All university-recognized organizations were invited to purchase coverage through direct mailings and informational e-mails.

{EDITORIAL}

Editorial content does not necessarily reflect the views of the university. The editor in chief accepts responsibility for all content in the book.

{CONTACT}

The Bluesrone is located in Roop Hall, room G6. The staff can be contacted at MSC 3522, 800 S. Main St., Harrisonburg, Va., 22807 and at (540) 568-6541. The e-mail address is jmu.bluesrone@gmail.com and the website is www.jmu.edu/orgs/thebluesrone.
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{UNIVERSITY FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION}
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{UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATION}
University Program Board
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbott, Ciera .................................. 238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbington, Latecia .................................. 261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abe, Natalie .................................. 308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abe, Paige .................................. 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abel, Natalie .................................. 308, 309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abou-Tejaili, Lara .................................. 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abrahamsson, Craig .................................. 189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accardi, Caroline .................................. 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams, Ashley .................................. 297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams, Rhett .................................. 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aesy, Mary Catherine .................................. 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affairs, The Office of Public .................................. 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aguilar, Megan .................................. 261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahir, Monica .................................. 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alami, Aisha .................................. 167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alber, Kayla .................................. 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberico, Ralph .................................. 217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert, Jacob .................................. 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert, Katharine .................................. 228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexa Painter .................................. 264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander, Jeffery .................................. 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander, Jeffrey .................................. 180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander, Kristin .................................. 59, 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander, Nandi .................................. 263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen, Jocelyn .................................. 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen, Matthew Brady .................................. 238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen, Mitchell .................................. 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alley, Jenna .................................. 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison, Victoria .................................. 245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi Alpha .................................. 224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Sigma Tau .................................. 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Tau Omega .................................. 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amato, Carlie .................................. 247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amaya, Eloise .................................. 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Medical Association .................................. 224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancarrow, Casey .................................. 282, 283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, Evan .................................. 71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson-Golhor, Yole .................................. 307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea, Erin .................................. 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Jenks .................................. 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Warhol .................................. 194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anise, Megan .................................. 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anguila .................................. 181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anonick, Sharlene .................................. 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antionette Cecil .................................. 258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apel, Diana .................................. 283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleton, Lauren .................................. 167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apwisch, Kristina .................................. 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbaiza, Mary .................................. 227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong, Lauren .................................. 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artale, Dominic .................................. 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley, Frank .................................. 138, 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Butler .................................. 264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys Like Girls</strong> .................................. 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birkin, Spencer .................................. 227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biondi, Emily .................................. 283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisco, LeeTita .................................. 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladell, Johnny .................................. 279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair, Marissa .................................. 235, 248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair, Meredith .................................. 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boal, Michael .................................. 296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Dylan .................................. 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bohl, Caitlin .................................. 241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolanos, Claudia .................................. 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton, Corinne .................................. 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonifant, Jack .................................. 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonsall, Sarah .................................. 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botkin, Lori .................................. 281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botts, Taylor .................................. 228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowles, Denzel .................................. 312, 313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyd, Carleigh .................................. 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyd, Sally .................................. 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Like Girls .................................. 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Sherwood .................................. 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braden, Jennifer .................................. 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradstreet, Frances .................................. 162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradsher, Frances .................................. 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brindy, Jackson .................................. 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brizzi, Ryan Leigh .................................. 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broccoli, Alexa .................................. 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cagnoli, Marisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callahan, Lindsay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltabiano, Patty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campton, Matthew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candace Cottrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlin, Lindsay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottrell, Anna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colapietro, Lisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coleman, Candice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coleman, Jeffrey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Mochrie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Music Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Alexandra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coman, Nora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombo, Lynne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condon, Kerianne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connelly, Rachel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connolly, Dineen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conrad, Kristen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contafera, Linda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook, Marjorie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coon, Julia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper, Dave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copenhaver, John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coretta Scott King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey, Annunciata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey, Danielle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correa, Emily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosby, Glenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton, Meredith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottrell, David</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courter, Katherine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cox, Kira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyle, Bethany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craft, Chet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig, Laura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creasy, Marian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creedence Clearwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cribb, Laura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricenelli, Andrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crompton, Matt Dela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curfman, Anna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry, Kelley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curt Ellis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutchins, Lindsay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czaus, Fay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell, Laura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crook, Sean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crosby, Sean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossman, Christine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crumpton, Caitlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuesta, Matthew Dela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruz, Michael</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily, Amy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily, Sarah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniell, Shira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel, Amy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel, Chareka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danker, Lauren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dang, Hong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daorai, Kaitlyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darab, Muhammad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darnell, Andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Sedaris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson, Elisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Christopher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Jennifer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Lizzy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Mikaela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Sara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day, Lisa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dearing, Tessa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoll, Rachel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeColli, Rachel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deitch, Christina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaney, Dana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaney, Molly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delorenzo, Tami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeMasters, Leah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demers, Stephanie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentler, Meg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strickler, Student Government Association 2D
Strubie , Straughn, Cameron ............................ 225
Storrie, Stevens, Stoner, Nick .......................................... 238
Students for Minority
Straughn, Cameron 225
Stout, Olivia 230, 265
Stitzel, Corey 313
Stinthers, Brice 227
Stiner, Andrew 230
Storrie, Karen 234
Stehle, Erin 256
Spitzer, Katie ............................... 28D, 281
Sorbara, Brandon ............................... 255
Smithgall, Smith, Rob .............................................. 42
Smith, Rob .............................................. 42
Smith, Sam .............................................. 42
Smith, Sara .............................................. 227
Smith, Starlet .............................................. 201
Smithgal, Jonathan .............................................. 305
Smithgal, Jonathan .............................................. 304
Snow, Robert .............................................. 204
Sonoskey, Amanda 259
Sorbara, Brandon 255
Sparks, Becky .............................................. 307
Sparks, George .............................................. 216
Spencer, Aileen 230, 232
Sperling, Vivi .............................................. 265
Spitzer, Kat .............................................. 259
Staur, Angelina .................................. 233
Steele, Charlie .............................................. 141
Stefanski, Karen .............................................. 234
Stehle, Erin .............................................. 256
Steinbrecher, Casey .............................................. 309
Steinbrecher, Lauren .............................................. 309
Steinwedell, Mikaela, 146, 148, 150, 240
Sten, Garrett .............................................. 200
Stern, Morgan .............................................. 293
Steve Angelo .............................................. 93
Stevens, Holly .............................................. 293
Stevens, Sydney .............................................. 241
Stewart, Samantha .............................................. 259
Stickels, Allison .............................................. 47
Stiebel, Karla .............................................. 260, 261
Stiedle, Kaitlyn .............................................. 183
Stiefvater, Amanda .............................................. 125
Stiles, Nicole .............................................. 283
Slenthers, Brice .............................................. 227
Sitzel, Corey .............................................. 313
Stone, Adam .............................................. 238
Stone, Samuel .............................................. 255
Stoner, Nick .............................................. 238
Storrie, Danielle .............................................. 228
Story, Aaron .............................................. 209
Stotter, Kathy .............................................. 39
Stout, Olivia .............................................. 230, 265
Strange, Julie 288, 295
Straughn, Cameron .............................................. 225
Street, Caitlin .............................................. 97
Strickland, Corinna .............................................. 307
Strickler, Danielle .............................................. 82, 209, 247
Stubbs, Dean .............................................. 60
Student Government Association 20
Students for Minority
Outreach .............................................. 106, 107

Students Helping Honduras .............................................. 78
Sullenger, Jay .............................................. 279
Sullivan, Chrisy .............................................. 259
Sullivan, Jamal .............................................. 32
Sullivan, Mary .............................................. 230, 232
Summers, Sherry .............................................. 315
Sundquist, Lauren .............................................. 261
Susan Davis .............................................. 264
Susan L. Taylor .............................................. 122, 123
Susko, Anna .............................................. 317
Suter, Daniel .............................................. 238
Sutter, John .............................................. 161
Swain, Elizabeth .............................................. 83
Sweet, Ron .............................................. 309
Sweetman, Sarah .............................................. 161
Sweeney, Kerin .............................................. 277
Swift, Emily .............................................. 52
Sykes, Brittnie .............................................. 188
Sykes, Mary .............................................. 293

Ta, Mary .............................................. 232, 265
Tabatha Sherman .............................................. 258
Take a Look .............................................. 106
Tirafas, Stephanie .............................................. 297
Tardiff, Emilee .............................................. 259
Tai Beta Sigma .............................................. 264
Taylor Down Under .............................................. 70, 96
Taylor, Brian .............................................. 161
Taylor, Chelsea .............................................. 209
Taylor, Jolisse .............................................. 314, 315
Taylor, Jenna .............................................. 297
Tazzoli, Janey .............................................. 259
Tedesco, Christine .............................................. 259
Todona, Elisa .............................................. 209
Teegarden, Clinton .............................................. 238
Tenaglia, Matt .............................................. 279
Terrio, Lindsay .............................................. 234
Thacker, Kristina .............................................. 161
The Bluestone .............................................. 246
The Breeze .............................................. 120
The Killers .............................................. 70
The Leadership in Energy and Environment Design .............................................. 73
The Office of Public Affairs .............................................. 72
The Pixies .............................................. 74
The Second City .............................................. 118
Thaisdel, Katie .............................................. 158
Tholen, Chelsea .............................................. 227
Thomas, Dr. Celeste R. 235, 246, 249
Thompson, Anna .............................................. 52, 328
Thompson, Brittany .............................................. 227, 253
Thompson, Ethan .............................................. 183
Thompson, Joshua .............................................. 209
Tibbens, Emily .............................................. 72
Tiefel, Cheryl .............................................. 83, 335, 336
Tierney, Sean .............................................. 279
Tim Burton .............................................. 82
Timpahno, Callie .............................................. 259
Tingle, Samantha .............................................. 253
Tisinger, Cate .............................................. 307
Tobia, Alexandra .............................................. 253
Toburen, Emily .............................................. 241

Tolep, Jennifer .............................................. 261
Tomforh, Samantha .............................................. 120, 241
Tomoff, Olivia .............................................. 307
TOMS shoes .............................................. 21, 50
Toney, Asya .............................................. 231
Toole, Alyson .............................................. 241
Tormey, Nicole .............................................. 253
Torr, Meredith .............................................. 283
Torrrella, Tatiana .............................................. 235
Townsend, Matt .............................................. 279
Tracey, Ashley .............................................. 228
Tran, Alex .............................................. 230, 232
Tran, Christine .............................................. 265
Trapani, Lauren .............................................. 114
Trichter, Dave .............................................. 70
Troutman, Jessica .............................................. 183
Truong, Tony .............................................. 265
Tu, Avian .............................................. 223, 265
Tunstall, Hannah .............................................. 234
Turner, Char .............................................. 24
Turner, Kelly .............................................. 309
Tuttle, Aubrey .............................................. 209
Ty Walker .............................................. 104

Ugenti, Elena .............................................. 253
Underwood, Nichole .............................................. 161
University Park .............................................. 72
University Program Board .............................................. 9, 39, 51, 61, 112, 114, 124, 140
University Recreation Center .............................................. 72

Vacca, Lauren .............................................. 253
Valadja, Alex .............................................. 279
VanBuskirk, Amy .............................................. 234
Vance, Emily .............................................. 317
VanNess, Alexander .............................................. 262
VanTreuren, Karl .............................................. 259
Varela, Courtney .............................................. 228
Vassalotti, Victoria .............................................. 259
Vaughn, Connor .............................................. 45
Vera, Carol .............................................. 188
Versfeld, Courtney .............................................. 297
Viers, Ashley .............................................. 47
Viccanzio, David .............................................. 53
Vietnamese Students Association 265
Villenave, Shaun .............................................. 279
Vince, Ryan .............................................. 300, 301
Vladimirsky, Greg .............................................. 284
Vo, Huy .............................................. 169
Voznendro, Yaroslav .............................................. 284, 285
Vtipil, Andrea .............................................. 257
Vu, Bryan .............................................. 265

Index } 345
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wade, Jessica</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wadsworth, Conor</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waggoner, Carrie</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagner, Corbin</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walspun, Jonathan</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker, Beverly</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall, Eryn</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall, Holly</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall, Lindsay</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallace, Anne</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallace, Brock</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walsh, Patrick</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang, Tian-Hua</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang, Tian-Hua</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward, Kimberley</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward, Victoria</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warner, David</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warner, Mark</td>
<td>60, 215, 217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren, Alexandra</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wasson, Jillian</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watson, Julie</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaver, Jessica</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaver, Mackenzie</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webb, Brittany</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webber, Leah</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webster, Caitlin</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weida, Lindsay</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wein, Rachel</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiner, James</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weisensale, Auburn</td>
<td>296, 297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiss, Daniel</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weissberg, Allie</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welde, Christopher</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wells, Julius</td>
<td>92, 312, 313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welford, Gil</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Werner, Greg</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheeler, Kylie</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, Ted</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, Christie</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, Jeff</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitehurst, Lauren</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitmore, Garrett</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitt, Lorin</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widner, Heather</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiechmann, Megan</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiencek, Meghan</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiggins, Julianne</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilcox, Jenna</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiley, Mackenzie</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilhelm, Brittany</td>
<td>288, 295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkins, Laura</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkins, Samantha</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Smith</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilcox, Jon</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams, Ashley</td>
<td>288, 295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams, Brooke A</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams, Leht</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams, Mike</td>
<td>19, 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willis, Shannon</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson, Kelly</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson, Lauren</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson, Lydia</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson, Rachel</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witz, Shelby</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wingate, Alyson</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wink, Sarah</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston, Key'Nika</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wison, Phillip</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witt, Ariana</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiz Khalifa</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wojcik, Lauren</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolfe, Becca</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall, Kristen</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Water Polo</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood, Kate</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woods, Abbey</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodsmall, York</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodward, Carlyn</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodyard, Marq'uis</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worten, Kat</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrona, Katherine</td>
<td>30, 293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wszalek, Diane</td>
<td>306, 307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu, Amy</td>
<td>230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu, Courtney</td>
<td>223, 230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu, Michael</td>
<td>230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu-Evangelista, Andrew</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WXJM BB 7</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyatt, Paul</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wysocki, Alex</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu, Michael</td>
<td>230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamarick, Jessica</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yonce, Kirby</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young, Brittany</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young, Kala</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young, Leah</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yu, Tammy</td>
<td>230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zabel, Monica</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zarathe, Victoria</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zawie, Sarah</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zehnle, Samantha</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeng, Linda</td>
<td>230, 232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeroual, Jessica</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ziegler, Kelly</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zielinski, Caitlin</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zinda, Alicia</td>
<td>112, 240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zirkle, Kieth W</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zozos, Jessica</td>
<td>288, 295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zubrow, Molly</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zurisadai, Pena</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zwolak, Karen</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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DR. & MRS. NICK GETTAS
MICHAEL W. McINTYRE & CATHERINE WOOD
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DEWAYNE & KAREN HUFF
ISABELLA DAVENPORT
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JOHN & AMY THISDELL
DOUGLAS & ROBBIE CASKEY
DAVID & JANET THOMPSON
MAUREEN SCHMIDT
JAMES & DEBORAH WALL
DIANE & GARY STOPA
ROBERT & JANICE CASSAGNE
THOMAS & CATHERINE ADKINS
STEPHANIE E. EILKERSON
LCDR & MRS. JOSEPHY E. LAMOUREUX, JR.
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BARBARA & KEVIN BRENNAN
ERIC & NANETTE PORTER
NEAL, JOANNE & CAITLIN CONAHAN
KATHLEEN E. WOOD
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MR. & MRS. WILLIAM C. KNINEN
ANDREAS FOTOPOULOS
MR. & MRS. MICHAEL BROWN
DR. & MRS. THOMAS G. WARD
KYLE ALLEN HENSLEY
WILLIAM & KAREN WHITBY

Index } 367
in memoriam

Ryan Kerr
8/12/10

Emily Smallman
7/17/10

Michael Crittenden Foote
8/12/10