Closed road could be fire problem

Fire department access limited on campus

By Amy Porter

A fire at Cleveland, Johnston, Sheldon or Spotswood halls could be difficult for local fire officials to reach, said the Harrisonburg fire chief.

Larry Shifflett said that because road access is limited in the area of those halls, the fire department would experience unacceptable delays and inadequate means of operating if it responded to a call there.

The Main Street entrance to Alumnae Drive had to be closed when the construction of a new fine arts building started during winter break. To continue access to Alumnae Drive, a dirt road was made between the parking lot of Miller Hall and Duke Fine Arts Center behind Cleveland Hall.

However, because some people park illegally, fire trucks cannot pass through the access road, Shifflett said. To improve access to Alumnae Drive, Shifflett had suggested that a gravel road be built in front of Miller Hall through the grass beside Johnston, according to an article in the Daily News-Record Tuesday. He suggested that plan to alleviate the severity of the sharp curve on Alumnae Drive near the library, he said.

A dirt road has since been put through there. However, illegal parking still would prevent fire trucks from getting to the small curved road, Shifflett said.

If there was a fire in a building near the construction, fire trucks could not get as close as needed, Shifflett said.

"We would get as close as we could and physically pull the hose the rest of the way," he said.

The hoses are pre-connected to the truck. If extra hose needed to be added because the distance between the building and the truck was too great, filling the gaps would cause "unacceptable delays," Shifflett said.

Two people man a truck, and one must remain on the truck to handle the pump control. The other worker would have to disconnect the hose and fill the gaps alone.

Shifflett met early this week with acting JMU President Russell Warren and representatives from the campus police and buildings and grounds departments.

"I wanted them to recognize that access was inadequate," Shifflett said.

He knew the potential of the problem before construction started, he said.

"I received plans back in September from the state office that reviews building plans and they asked me to comment on hydrant locations," Shifflett said. He wrote back to that office indicating that access routes would have to be revised to prevent fire hazards.

"The office advised me to talk to JMU," Shifflett said.

Shifflett said he dropped by JMU Jan. 19 and noticed the gates were set up and the Main Street entrance to Alumnae Drive was closed. Also, traffic was re-routed and the access road was built behind Cleveland Hall.

However, Shifflett said he was not notified of the closed entrance or the access road beforehand.

He wrote letters and sent pictures he took of the site to Warren and the state fire marshall. He also sent a copy to the governor's office. Shifflett has not received a response.

County selects JMU senior as volunteer firefighter

By Cathy Carey

After denying her membership twice, Harrisonburg Hose Co. 4 accepted senior Laura Toso as a permanent member of the county volunteer fire department Monday night.

The department had voted on the issue twice during a Jan. 5 meeting. In the first vote, seven members voted against her. In the revote, five voted down her membership.

Since the fire company's bylaws state that five "no" votes constitute automatic rejection, Toso could not become a permanent member.

Of about 40 members, four voted against her membership at the department's meeting Monday.

"Naturally, I'm happy they decided what they did," Toso said Tuesday. She admitted, however, that she was worried before the meeting. "When I went up there, I really wasn't sure how it would turn out and I was apprehensive about it.

"They really proved that they may have made a mistake and they were trying to rectify the situation — make amends," she said.

Toso believes the four members who voted against her membership might have done so for one of several reasons, she said. They might have voted the membership down because they do not know her, because she is a JMU student or because she is a female, she said.

In the past, two other females have worked with Harrisonburg Hose Co. 4. But now Toso is the only female volunteer.

She was a probationary member of the fire department for three months last semester. After she was denied membership in January, the department put her on probation for another month.

During the past four months, she has been one of the top 15 members answering fire calls. She also has worked for the Harrisonburg Rescue Squad as an emergency medical technician for three-and-a-half years.

A public health major, Toso is enrolled in a firefighter class at Massanutten Vocational Technical Center. She also has worked as a JMU campus cadet.

Toso said although the title of permanent member is basically a courtesy title, "It's a privilege to have the title because they [department members] are selective."
Closing
> (Continued from page 1)

received a reply from JMU.

Shifflett has talked with the state fire marshal, who is expected to discuss the matter with JMU's buildings and grounds department. If the problem is not alleviated then, a harsher course of action will be taken, Shifflett said. He did not comment on what that could be.

Completely restricting parking on Alumni Drive would resolve the fire hazard, Shifflett said. However, the Harrisonburg Fire Department has no direct control of the fire code violations, only the state does.

- In the past two days, parking has been controlled more, but Shifflett said he thinks that will be temporary because of the recent publicity about the problem.

Campus police have requested that people continue to observe and support parking regulations, especially those addressed toward maintaining access to and from campus parking lots and streets.

Student
> (Continued from page 1)

The main benefit of being a permanent member is that she can run any call that she chooses to run. Strict requirements and special quotas do not exist for members.

Toso first became interested in firefighting as a child because her father is a volunteer firefighter. When she was a junior in high school, Toso founded a rescue corps in Harrison, N.Y.

Last year, she attended a structured fire drill with the local rescue squad. She told one of the firefighters she would like to try firefighting. He replied, "Put a pack on. Come and try it," she said. She did and liked it.

Toso then joined the city's fire department, Co. 1. She later switched to the county department, because it runs more calls than the city department and she wanted the extra experience.
Scholar warns against 'new technology'

By Alix Dapolito
staff writer

People need to understand modern technology and be able to sort the useful information from the nonsense, a visiting scholar said here Wednesday.

"Considering the number of things we know today, modern communication technology is inherently simple," said Dr. John Truxal, professor of technology and society at the State University of New York at Stonybrook.

"Technology, in many cases, is a bunch of nonsense and I want my students to be nonsense-detectors," Truxal said.

"You've got to look at the technology and understand it and say, 'Is this what we want?'" he said.

"People have a love affair with technology," he said. Everyone must realize that much of the new technology is "useless and stupid," he said.

"We have to look at how the technology will be used by people and what kind of impact it will have," he said.

Any technology system must take into account the contrary nature of people, he said. When people are advised to take a certain path, many take just the opposite one and feel they're beating the system.

With the quality of technology available today, Truxal said that the public ought to insist technology matches the characteristics of the people who are going to use it.

"Television is the first technology I know of which is matched to the characteristics of the people who are going to use it," he said.

Today, broadcasters can feed their viewers programs that are tailored to their desires, he said. Even advertising can be targeted toward a specific audience.

"Gradually we'll refine these advertising methods to a point so good that everyone will rush out at the end of the program to buy the product," he said.

"That's the sort of direction we're going in," he said.

"We have to learn to understand technology because we are the ones who will control it," Truxal said.

SGA discusses removal of library vending machines

By Martin Romjue
SGA reporter

Buying food in the library might be a thing of the past if library officials get their way and have vending machines removed.

In a response to a proposal to remove the machines, the Student Government Association currently is discussing a bill of opinion to oppose removing the machines.

Introduced by food services committee chairwoman Cindy Twining, the bill is based on results of a survey conducted by committee members last week. The survey showed that 72 percent of the respondents oppose removing the vending machines from the library basement snack room.

Converse senator Nanci Campbell proposed tabling the bill so the food services committee could seek feedback and possibly propose alternatives. By voice vote the senate approved tabling the bill.

"I would like to see a broader survey and have the committee come up with alternative measures rather than just go on the record opposing it," Campbell said.

Before the bill was tabled, senators debated the plans to remove the vending machines.

"I speak in favor of this bill just because we are here to represent students and we should let the university know," said Eric Snow, a member of the committee on quiet, food and drink in the library.

The committee, made up of library staff and SGA members, meets regularly to discuss and recommend solutions to noise and food problems in the library. Head librarian Dennis Robison sent memos to university administrators recommending the vending machines be removed during spring break.

Robison said the machines cause problems because students take food and drinks to reading areas, where they attract insects and rodents that destroy library materials.

Cleveland senator Marla Duncan said, "I think it's pretty bogus of them to think they can just plow right over the students without asking us what we feel."

The SGA survey also showed that 82 percent of the students surveyed did not know the vending machines were going to be removed, and 72 percent said they would bring in food anyway.

However, Greek senator Bob Houston said, "If you polled students, 100 percent would be against tuition and fees going up because of destroyed books."

"All the books that are being destroyed have to be paid for from someplace, and I hate it. It is going to be the cost of our money. People won't want books being destroyed if they have to pay for them."

In other business, the SGA unanimously passed a bill to improve student SGA awareness and encourage more student participation in the association's issues and activities.

The bill calls for displaying "meet your senator" posters in residence halls, installing SGA suggestion boxes in various locations on campus and designating one week at the beginning of each academic year as SGA Awareness Week. It was proposed by Chandler senator James Coleman.

Campbell announced that the ad-hoc housing advisory committee is investigating the implementation of the current alcohol and drug policies, in response to parent complaints of substance abuse in residence halls.

"We are not looking to change the present policy, but we want to look at the role of the R.A. staff in implementing the policy," Campbell said. "We are trying to define how far we want them to go."

In her weekly report, finance committee chairwoman Duncan said $8,062.20 is left in the SGA contingency account and told senators to let constituents know the deadline for all funding requests from campus organizations is Feb. 24.

In other business, the following bills were proposed and referred to the proper standing committees:

- Gifford senator Snow and Bell senator Brett Sheffield introduced bills calling for installation of student phones in Godwin Hall and Gibbons Dining Hall.
- Commuter senator Chris Eckl proposed a bill to issue snow shovels, sand and salt to residence hall staffs so they can clear entrances and sidewalks around their dorms to insure student safety.
- Snow proposed allocating $1,510 to the National Art Education Association so it can host several conferences and attend a national convention.
- Snow also proposed allocating $1,058.50 to the Association for Collegiate Entrepreneurs to attend its annual convention.

Campbell proposed a bill to allocate $800 to JMU's chapter of the National Student Speech, Language, and Hearing Association so the organization can attend the annual meeting of the Speech and Hearing Association of Virginia.
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Police and Safety. "We've had more this reported vandalized and their contents stolen. By Amy Porter
Vending units reportedly was smashed and its in vending machine vandalisms," said President Ronald Carrier also took a short leave from the Center for Innovative Technology recently to undergo surgery for a degenerative jaw condition.
However, Carrier missed less than two weeks of work after the four-hour surgery, which required that his mouth be wired shut for six weeks.
Now in his fifth week of recovery, he said he is ready to get the wires removed next week. "It's been a long process," said Carrier with a muffled voice in a phone interview Monday.
Yet he joked about the surgery. "I would recommend it to anybody," he said.
The surgery was performed Dec. 29 and Carrier was hospitalized for five days. "They moved my upper teeth six millimeters and my lower teeth seven millimeters," he said.
Carrier has known for a few years that his teeth needed to be moved so they would be better aligned. "It was probably two years ago when the dentist said you're going to need to do something about that bite," Carrier said.
Last year, he had braces, but they did not correct his bite.
Since the surgery, Carrier has lost 26 pounds, he said. His looks were altered a little by the surgery, but students still will recognize him when he returns in April.
"It changed my look a little, but I'm the same old warm, caring person underneath," he said.

POLICEFILE
Vending units vandalized, goods stolen
By Amy Porter
Since the beginning of this semester, five vending machines have been reported vandalized and their contents stolen.
"There has been a tremendous increase in vending machine vandalism," said Alan MacNutt, director of Campus Police and Safety. "We've had more this month than we had all last semester."
One was reported Jan. 6 and the following four in the past two weeks.
A Gifford Hall vending machine reportedly was smashed and its contents taken sometime between Jan. 23 and Jan. 27, police said. Both damage and the missing goods totaled about $120.
An Ashby Hall vending machine was reported broken into between 12:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Friday, police said. Damage totaled about $75 and goods stolen totaled about $24, police said.
A vending machine in Huffman Hall was reported vandalized about 9 a.m. Monday, police said. Damage totaled $14 but the value of the missing contents is unknown, police said.
A vending machine in the basement of Huffman Hall was broken into between 2 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday, police said. Police said they do not know the value of the missing goods or the cost of the damage.
Assault and battery
A man in the reserved ticket seats area of the Convocation Center was hit in the head with a roll of toilet paper at the Jan. 28 JMU-Maryland basketball game, police said. The roll of toilet paper hit and broke glasses and cut his nose in two places, police said.
Grand larceny
A room in C-section Chappell Hall was broken into between 7 p.m. Saturday and about 3:30 p.m. Sunday, police said. Jewelry, perfume and cash reported stolen were estimated at a total of $1,000.
Another attic in Cleveland Hall was reported broken into Friday, police said. An eight-piece Oleg Cassini gray luggage set worth $361 was reported stolen from a Ford Fiesta parked in X-Lot Jan. 22 and Jan. 27, police said. The plaque was 10 inches by 12 inches with a brass frame and black matting. The value is unknown, police said.
A large carton containing foam acoustic tiles was stolen from the second floor of Harrison Annex between Jan. 23 and Jan. 27, police said. The tiles are used on the walls to absorb sound. A carton of tiles is worth $150, police said.
A left front tire was reported stolen from a Ford Fiesta parked in X-Lot Friday, police said. The tire was a Montgomery Ward brand 155-80R12 with a honeycomb-style tread. A wheel and lug nuts, totaling about $100, also were missing, police said.
A green bookbag containing a jean jacket and textbooks was reported stolen from outside the front of Gifford Hall about 4 p.m. Friday, police said.
The bookbag and its contents total about $50, police said.
A set of license plates that say TENUS-1 was reported stolen Jan. 15 from a car parked in the lot behind White and Weaver halls, police said. The value of the plates is unknown, police said.
Vandalism and petty larceny
A globe from a street light on Madison Drive at the entrance of B-Lot was broken sometime Friday night or early Saturday morning, police said. A no-parking sign also was stolen, police said. The value of the sign is unknown.
Vandalism
A glass panel near the chapter room of the Theta Chi fraternity house was reported broken about 5 a.m. Sunday when someone threw a cinderblock through it, police said. Damage totaled about $200.
A student employee damaged and destroyed equipment from the cartography lab about 2:30 p.m. Jan. 29 in the Steel House on Warsaw Street, police said. The employee was identified from the job and was asked to pay the damages, police said. No value on the equipment is known, police said.
Several windows in Spotswood Hall were reported broken by people throwing snowballs at them about 10 p.m. Friday, police said. The head resident confronted the people involved but they refused to identify themselves and ran away. Damage totaled about $300.
Possession of stolen property
A student was charged with possession of stolen property about 4:30 a.m. Monday for having a highway sign mounted on a loft in McGraw-Long Hall, police said. Officers were responding to a false fire alarm in a room and discovered the sign which was confiscated and returned to its proper place, police said.
A judicial charge is made when university policy is violated. It is reviewed by university officials. Police do not release the names of the students charged judicially.

NEWSFILE
Campus pub to serve beer under clause
Starting tonight, the new campus pub will serve beer to people who can drink legally under the grandfather clause in Virginia's new 21-year-old drinking age. When the pub opened last weekend, only people who were 21 were allowed to drink beer.
Now, anyone who was born before July 2, 1966 will be allowed to drink in the pub, said Nancy Carrier, a pub manager who also manages Salads Plus and the Steak House.
Carrier said the pub advisory board simply overlooked the grandfather clause when they made the policy. "At the time it didn't even cross my mind," she said.
Kathy Sayko, legislative vice president of the Student Government Association and a member of the pub advisory board, submitted a written proposal to the board suggesting that the pub honor the grandfather clause.
Carrier said she checked with an officer of Virginia's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, and discovered that the pub could honor the grandfather clause.
"I talked to the ABC officer and he said we could, so we will," Carrier said. Mike Wilson

Local TV program features students
"Reach Out," a Channel 3 television program dealing with community issues, will have some familiar faces on it this Sunday.
Three JMU students will appear on the program to promote Black History Month, which is February.

CPR instructing to be taught here
The Harrisonburg Department of Parks & Recreation, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, will conduct a cardiopulmonary resuscitation instructor course Feb. 22, 27, 28 and March 1 at the Community Activities Center, 305 S. Dogwood Drive.
The deadline for registration is Feb. 18th. For more information, contact James Sowers at the parks office at 433-9168.
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CIT grants JMU $50,000 for entrepreneurial center

By Brian Carter
business reporter

The Center for Innovative Technology granted JMU $50,000 last week to aid in developing the university's Center for Entrepreneurship.

The CIT, under the direction of Dr. Ronald Carrier, awarded $180,097 to six Virginia universities as the first step in developing a state system of statewide entrepreneurial centers. Carrier will be finishing a year's leave of absence from the JMU presidency in April when he steps down as CIT director.

JMU's $50,000 grant was matched only by Old Dominion University, which is establishing its first center for entrepreneurship.

The grant will further develop CE's commitment in the area of venture assistance to small firms, "we currently receive 12 to 15 inquiries per week from people around the area who want help developing an idea," said Dr. Robert Holmes, dean of the College of Business.

The grants represent the first step in the CIT program to establish a system of Centers for Entrepreneurship at colleges throughout the state.

Holmes said he thinks the large grant that JMU has received from CIT is a reflection of the university's commitment and leadership in the entrepreneurship program.

"Having Dr. Carrier at CIT certainly did not hurt our position, but I think the fact that our center has received national recognition is the reason we have been chosen by CIT as a leader in the program," Holmes said. "We are currently ranked in the top five or six programs of this kind out of 150 in the nation."

Marcus Fisk, CIT spokesman, said that the purpose of the grants is to allow more colleges to develop entrepreneurship centers as well as to allow existing centers to strengthen their programs.

The CIT based each grant on the school's ability to match the amount on a dollar-for-dollar basis as well as their entrepreneurship center's proposals for the services it would provide with the money. JMU was able to match the grant with a fund provided by community businesses. Dr. Roger Ford, director of the JMU center, prepared and submitted the grant proposal to CIT last fall.

The entrepreneurship centers will focus on using the college's resources to help small businesses become more profitable. Ford said the long-term goal of the centers is to break down the barrier that traditionally exists between universities and the business community, thus allowing small business to make use of the vast capabilities of a research institution.

In the four other grants announced last week, the Virginia Commonwealth University was awarded $38,000, University of Virginia received $25,000, Longwood College was awarded $10,000 and William and Mary received $9,097.

JMU's Center for Entrepreneurship has grown rapidly since its inception in 1985. Its goals include promoting and strengthening the American entrepreneurial tradition, enhancing Virginia's economy by encouraging innovation and serving the community through education, outreach services and scholarship.

In 1986, under the first funded professorship created by the College of Business, the center hired Dr. David Holt. During the fall, JMU was selected by Center for Innovative Technology as the benefactor of a $9,800 contract to serve as consultant to CIT in its program to create a network of entrepreneurial programs throughout Virginia.

Students gain experience by working with CE as business counselors for start up firms in the area who cannot afford a professional counselor. Ford said the grant should enable more students to get involved with the program.

"In our program, we give students hands on experience that they otherwise could not get for five or 10 years out of school," Ford said.

CE plans to hire a professional staff member to serve as a program director and assistant to Ford. The center would not name the person it plans to seek, but the position will not be filled by a member of the present JMU faculty.

"We are seeking a prominent member of this area's business community," Holmes said.

**CIT Grants to Virginia Schools**

- JMU: $50,000
- ODU: $50,000
- VCU: $38,000
- UIW: $25,000
- Longwood: $10,000
- William and Mary: $9,097

Staff graphic by KEN MALCZAK
The Breeze will be having a special Valentine section in its Feb.12 issue. For this issue only, all Valentine personals will be $1.00 for every 10 words. Deadline for Valentine personals is Mon., Feb. 9, at noon.
BLOOM COUNTY — Berke Breathed

YABBER — Dorsey

Hi, remember how you said you'd never ever ever lie to me?

Well, I finished a new painting. I'm calling it "Shine, Shimmer in Blue." Take a look!

What do you think? Honestly, "the honest opinion." It has destroyed better men than I.

Weil, I finished a new painting. I'm calling it "Shine, Shimmer in Blue." Take a look!

Now try not to move this time!

The next romantic line mine on our tour of a modern marriage: relationship is not here. Actually.

Lola, why did you take my cereal bowl... it's totally ridiculous. Out of the fridge?

But I like cold cereal bowl... I've never refrigerated them ever since I was a little kid.

I reorganized your record collection today. I tossed the clutch stuff.

I believe it's about that point in our relationship where I should be expecting the dreaded "confession." At any moment.

I French kissed Arnold Blimpson in Eighth Grade!

Subliminal Cartoon Messages

THE FAR SIDE — Gary Larson

“I've warned you kids about this — now I'm gonna straighten you out once and for all.”

“Ooo! Now here's a nice one we built last fall.”

Suddenly, everyone turned and looked — there, standing in the doorway, was one wretched, mean-looking ingrown.
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Ski Boots - Garment, Black, size 7. Good condition. $15. 434-9835.

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Haircuts! On campus, appointments anytime, only $2.50. Call Amy, 4256.

Looking For Some Romance? Relationship gone amuck? Have a rose delivered by a gentleman in a tux. $5. xGODS.

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Party With Tri Sig & Lambda Chi tonight at JMU?

$5 Lifts, $5 Rentals, Free Lessons at Massanutten Monday night?

Jim - Happy anniversay! I love you. Miss Haynes

Give Your Valentine A Lift - Buy balloons from AXA Little Sisters, Friday, Harrison Annex, or call x5914.

Hey Yuryl Happy 19th. How 'bout a Blizzard break? Please sleep fully clothed. Love, the Shunnaminle Wannabe's.

Unique Calligraphy, Watercolor - To make any Valentine card special. Alice, x4161.

Saturday - Come hear hot tunes from The Tri & The Skanks.

Mark Willkin - Watch out for those poicets. You Hobo's Junkie

Come On Out Headbanger Musicians - Guitar team seeks bassist & drummer for JMU's only metal band.

Spring Break Party '87 - Sign up now to reserve your place in Daytona ($139), Ft. Lauderdale ($129-169) or Key West ($165-175). Call Julie, 433-9660; Mitch, x7456; or Luv Tours, 1-800-542-8003. ($165-175). Call Julie, 433-9860; Mitch, 433-1460.

Friday & Saturday, 7 & 9:30 in G/S.

Hey Steve - Happy 21st! Hope it's great. Love you, Hoove.

Buy A Balloon for your honey! $50 each or 3/$1. Contact Pam at x5555 for details.

Bobby In The Hamburger Line - I've been watching you & am wondering, are you taken? Crazy For Your Buns

"The Fly"

Friday & Saturday, 7 & 9:30 In G/S.

Tim - Have a happy February. Love Leigh & Maria.

Panhellenic Sends Its Congrats to Wendy White & Beth Goday for highest Pledge/Sister sorority cumulative GPA.

Stacy - Sorry I missed you at the party Friday at Ashby. Craig

Marc The Soccer Player In Ashby - The manager of Hardes wants to speak with you.

Spring Break in Key Largo - Snorkeling, scuba diving, sun & fun, March 7-14. Call Kathy's Scuba for details, 433-3337.

Massanutten now has a 35-50" base on all trails! Enjoy their best skiing in years on Duke Night this Monday!

A.X.A. Carnival/Bake Sale - Friday in Union. Remember someone special with free delivery of flowers on Valentine's Day. Only $1.50.


NOTICE - We will be having a special Valentine issue Thurs., Feb. 12. See our ad page 8 for special rates and deadlines.

Becky Ballford - You are being scopped!

Learn To Ski For $10 at Massanutten this Monday night?

Greg - Here's your personal, sealed with a great big, sparkling silver, candy kiss. How about dinner? I'll cook. XOXOX, Kathy.

Amy - 9 days, 59 minutes to go. Whatcha gonna wear?

Spring Break Daytona - Oceanfront lodging, transportation, only $199. Steve, 433-8553.

Hey Steve - Happy 21st! Hope its great. Love you, Hoove.

David - Is your bathroom floor clean? Just wipe it off and put your socks on. Joe M.

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Donnie Van Zandt (left) and Don Barnes of .38 Special rocked into the night for an audience of about 3,600.

'Reckin' into the night...'

.38 Special fires explosive show

By Chris Cohick
staff writer

The lights dimmed. The swirling sounds of helicopters engulfed the Convocation Center. Wagner's "Victory at Sea" billowed out of the walls of speakers.

.38 Special had launched an attack straight out of "Apocalypse Now" on the audience.

The relentless attack lasted for an hour and a half. When the smoke cleared, the audience realized it had been overwhelmed by the power of one of the world's most consistent rock forces.

At first, the concert appeared destined to ride on rough seas. The band's guitars were lost by the airline. Leaving New Jersey at 1 p.m., they arrived in Harrisonburg just an hour before showtime.

Also, the scheduled opening act, The Del-Lords, would not appear because they had been pulled off the entire tour by their booking agent. In their place, .38 Special invited The Questionnaires from Nashville, Tenn.

Armed with practice amps, The Questionnaires' equipment appeared miniscule compared to .38's stacks. But facing up to the challenge of getting audience members pumped up for .38 Special, The Questionnaires played an 11-song set and one encore.

Surveying many different styles, the four-piece band played all originals except for Chuck Berry's "I'm Talking 'Bout You." Their opener, "Fool's Parade," had a sound like other Southern bands such as R.E.M. and the Georgia Satellites. The ninth song, "Y.O.U.," got the crowd moving to its grateful Dead-influenced beat.

After The Questionnaires encore, "Rose Tattoo," audience members could barely wait for the main event. But wait they did.

Technical delays caused .38 Special to start an hour after The Questionnaires
The audience of about 3,600 got the response with a series of boos. This was met with cheers of anticipation, but the "helicopters" were forced to land. The restless crowd responded with a series of boos.

Ten minutes later, the show began. Never letting the intensity die, .38 Special pulled song after song from their bottomless bag of hits. New and old songs were met, with equal praise from the audience.

The light show was nothing less than excellent. In "Somebody Like You," from the band's recent release, Strength in Numbers, a spotlight was aimed at random members of the audience. This got the crowd dancing and singing even more.

A row of bright white lights above the stage filled the Convocation Center with light, and lightning when flashed. While this was going on, smoke covered the floor of the stage adding to the overall effect. If this wasn't enough, the individual band members also had great stage presence. Donnie Van Zandt didn't let the crowd stop having a good time. During "20th Century Fox," off Tour De Force, Van Zandt had everyone's hands above their heads waving back and forth in sync with the music.

In songs like "Teacher, Teacher" and "Back Where You Belong," guitarists, Don Barnes and Jeff Carlisi ran from one side of the stage to the other, reeling off lick after lick. With bassist Larry Junstrom standing idle by the drums, the stage was left wide open for the ranting and raving of Van Zandt and the others.

The six-piece band concluded with the hit, "Rocking Into The Night." As the crowd thought the song was coming to a close, they kicked back into it, playing in an inspired, double-time groove. The song ended with a bang, as fireworks exploded on either side of the stage.

But the crowd was going nowhere. The pep rally for an encore was lead primarily by people on the floor in front of the stage, who climbed and stood on the shoulders of friends to coax the band back on stage. They were successful.

.38 Special came back out and played one of their classic hits, "Hold On Loosely" from Wild-Eyed Southern Boys. Then they ripped into Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Travelin' Band."

With this, they left the stage once again, and this time the crowd was satisfied.

\**MOVIE REVIEW**

'Mosquito Coast' couldn't help but be great

By Mark Longenbach

Everyone gets tired of things in this world. The crime rate is depressing, television evangelists are taking over the airwaves, and fast food chains have taken over the family restaurant. It makes you want to get out.

Where would you go? Where is there a place that remains untouched by the destructive elements of man?

Inventor Allie Fox, played by Harrison Ford, finds that place — or so he thinks. Frustrated with the American way of life, he packs his bags, grabs the wife and kids and sets sail for the Mosquito Coast.

Fox purchases what he believes to be a small town and sets off into the jungle to build his own Utopia.

What Fox bought is an undeveloped piece of Central American bush, inhabited by a small group of friendly natives.

Living off the land and sending to the mainland for a few necessities, Fox applies his knowledge of carpentry, engineering and mechanical wizardry, and does indeed build a self-sufficient, totally developed town, complete with air conditioning.

Fox becomes disillusioned by the dream world he creates, and his dreams are shattered when he finds that man's grimy hands can even reach his family and the villagers of the utopia they have worked so hard to create.

"The Mosquito Coast" is a brilliant film directed by Peter Weir, who has gained quite a reputation.

Weir's film "The Year of Living Dangerously" won its supporting actress Linda Hunt an academy award, and his most recent film, "Witness," earned eight Academy Award nominations.

Weir's superb direction, the film also utilizes the talents of producer Jerome Hellman, who produced such classics as "Midnight Cowboy," and "Coming Home."

Also helping out is Executive Producer Saul Zaentz, who produced "Amadeus" and possibly one of the best films in the history of cinema, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

If that isn't enough, the screenplay was written by Paul Schrader, best known as screenwriter for "Taxi Driver" and "Raging Bull."

"The Mosquito Coast" obviously could not fail as far as technical brilliance is concerned.

Its key commercial success is due to its leading man. Ford's name attracts audiences, and in this film it should.

Ford plays an inventor who plucks his family from society and forces them to become a modern day Swiss Family Robinson.

This role is new for Ford, who is usually cast as a heroic, swashbuckling, lovable character. As Allie Fox, he is pig-headed and too ambitious for his own good. He has a dream, and if he must risk the lives of his family in order to attain it, then so be it.

"The Mosquito Coast" is a film that will delight and anger you in the same two hours. It makes you think that, possibly, there is a little bit of Allie Fox in all of us.
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### AFTER HOURS

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<td>Disc Jockey — JM's Pub &amp; Deli, $1 cover charge.</td>
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<td>DJ and Dance Contest — JM's, $1 cover charge.</td>
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<td>DJ — Players, Ladies’ Night, no cover charge for ladies, $1 for men.</td>
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<td>New Potato Caboose — Mystic Den, cover charge not available.</td>
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<td>Jellyfish Blues Band — Gandy Dancer, free with college ID.</td>
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<td>Madison Brass — Anthony-Seeger Hall, 8 p.m., free.</td>
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<td>Bedroom Window (R) — Valley Mall Roth Theatres, 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:35 p.m.</td>
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<td>Critical Condition (R) — Valley Mall Roth Theatres, 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:40 p.m. and 9:40 p.m.</td>
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<td>Crimes of the Heart (R) — Valley Mall Roth Theatres, 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:25 p.m.</td>
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<td>Golden Child (PG-13) — RothTheatres, 7:16 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Golden Child (PG-13) — Roth Theatres, 7:15 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Golden Child (PG-13) — Roth Theatres, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.</td>
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<td>Little Shop of Horrors (PG-13) — Roth Theatres, 7:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.</td>
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\textbf{Professor discovers perfect love potion}

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Tennis duo starts nationals

By Sonny Dearth
assistant sports editor

For Terri Gaskill and Chris Gillies, JMU's number one women's doubles team, their day has arrived.

After qualifying for the Intercollegiate Tennis Coaches Association National Indoor Championships last year, Gaskill and Gillies have spent the last two months preparing themselves for their shot at the best collegiate players in the nation.

Gaskill and Gillies face unseeded Nicole Stafford and Ingelise Driehuis of Clemson University at 2 p.m. today in the first round at the Country Club of Virginia. The Clemson team made the field as an alternate, given entry into the draw when another team failed to arrive.

The event, perhaps America's most selective college tennis tournament, runs through Sunday in Richmond. It will climax with the singles and doubles finals for men and women Sunday at the Arthur Ashe, Jr. Athletic Center.

Billed by Richmond-area advertising as "The Final Four of College Tennis," this hardly qualifies as a run-of-the-mill tournament.

"I want not to draw a seed [one of the projected top four teams]," she said. "No match is going to be an easy match...I guess the odds are one in four with four seeds."

In the Northeast Regional at Philadelphia in November, Gaskill and Gillies were the favorites. They upheld their top status, marching through the event without losing a set. The Dukes had the least trouble of all in the finals, winning 6-3, 6-0 to gain their national berth.

But they slipped a bit last Sunday, dropping a 4-6, 6-1, 7-5 decision to Marymount College to miss the NCAA Tournament.

"They weren't playing well," Malerba said. "It was kind of early [before the spring] to play that match, but we needed a match before nationals."

So now these underdog Dukes must prove their ability to bounce back against another squad from the tough Atlantic Coast Conference.

"If we play our game, we should do pretty well," Gaskill said. "They're [other teams] going to be good, but they can't be that tough.

Gillies also realized the Dukes' opponents must have the extra concern of the favorite's role.

See TENNIS page 19 >

Indoor track athletes face difficult schedule

By Gary Crockett
staff writer

Despite the usual uncertainty of success which marks the beginning of any sports season, there's one thing this year's JMU indoor track team can be sure of — it will be tested.

Participating in a series of invitational meets which annually attract world class competition, the standard of comparison for the Dukes will be very high.

"I try to make the schedule as difficult as I can to expose our team to national-caliber competition which gives them a better sense of how well they're doing," said head coach Bill Walton, who is in his third year as director of the JMU track and cross country programs.

With a solid nucleus of returning performers, particularly in the field and sprint events, and the absence of any major injuries, the Dukes appear well prepared for the challenges of the new season.

Perhaps the most notable returning member from last year's squad is junior D.D. Manns. He is the defending Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletics of America (IC4A) long jump champion. He also set a college division meet record in the event at the prestigious Penn Relays last year.

In addition to Manns, the Dukes return a number of experienced and talented people in the field events. Senior co-captain Pat Julius, who established a school record in the decathlon (6,311 points) a year ago, is back, along with Carl Childs in the shot put and Scott Rogers in the pole vault.

The Dukes traditionally have been loaded with quality sprinters, but only senior co-captain Mike Rose remains from JMU's IC4A champion 400-meter relay team. Sophomore Kevin Jones and junior Chris Miller also return, comprising half of the 1600-meter relay team which put yet another school record in the books for the Dukes last season.

In the distance running events, the Dukes boast a trio of fine runners. Leading the way is sophomore Pete Weillemann, who placed seventh at the NCAA District III cross country meet last fall. He will be teamed with senior George Fitch, whose versatility ranges from the 800-meter to the 10,000-meter event, and the sophomore Doug Bloor, who returns after an outstanding freshman year.

"We have a pretty well-rounded team," said Walton. "We are further along in terms of conditioning than last year, but we also are younger and our success will depend on how quickly we adapt to the competition."
Gymnasts prepare for Tribe, Radford

Women continue searching to find elusive first victory

By Thomas Bergeron

Although the season is just one month old, the women's gymnastics team has reached what could be the biggest point of the year. In desperate need of wins, the team will take on Radford and William and Mary this weekend in Godwin Hall.

"We have to get a couple of wins," said head coach Scott Gauthier, who predicted at the outset of the season that his team was capable of winning the state title. "I think [this weekend] could be easily be a turning point in the year."

The women opened the year by losing to North Carolina, but that was expected against the ACC power. Gauthier was hoping to fare better against in-state rivals, but hasn't so far.

JMU lost at William and Mary and took third place behind Radford and champion North Carolina State last weekend in the JMU-hosted Shenandoah Valley Invitational. Despite the losses, Gauthier is still confident in his team.

"We are so close to winning [they lost to Radford by 2.25 points]," he said. "If we can just have a couple less falls we'd be there." Even so, Gauthier knows that a couple of wins could boost the team's self-confidence.

He thinks that win can come against Radford, when along with George Washington University will be at JMU Friday night at 7.

"I was slightly surprised [about the loss to Radford last weekend], I think we have more talent," Gauthier said. "We get a chance to redeem ourselves, though. Anytime you're within two points you know it can go either way."

In order for it to go the Dukes' way Friday night, Gauthier feels that his team must get a better performance on the beam and parallel bars.

"You are usually pretty consistent on the vault and the floor [exercise] but at anytime you can fall off the beam or bars," he explained. "Once that happens, the gymnasts can get rattled and it can easily happen again."

The importance of staying on the equipment is obviously because of the scoring. It is basically standard scoring that every fall is equivalent to .5 off.

So a gymnast easily could lose two or three points on one routine. That could be the difference in the meet.

Against perennial powerhouse William and Mary, Gauthier is hoping the fact Saturday afternoon's meet is at JMU will be the difference.

"It's not easy to sit in a van for three hours and then compete," he said. "The fact that our equipment is to our advantage. It will be nice because we'll have the crowd."

Men hope weekend meets bring needed experience

By Thomas Bergeron

It is unusual for a team to have virtually meaningless matches during the middle of the season, but such appears to be the case for the JMU men's gymnastics team.

This weekend in Godwin Hall, JMU takes on Radford (Friday at 7 p.m.) and William and Mary (Saturday at 2 p.m.) in meets that will have little bearing on the team.

Against Radford, the reasons are obvious. JMU is easily the superior of the two, as was evident in last week's Shenandoah Valley Invitational where the Dukes outdistanced the Highlanders by nearly 50 points. About all head coach Scott Gauthier feels his club can gain from this meet will be experience.

"It's an opportunity to go out in front of people," he said. "No matter how much you practice, you can't copy the feeling of a meet situation."

That experience would usually be of great help when facing perennial power William and Mary. But this weekend's encounter with the Tribe will not be as important as those earlier this year because of an injury to senior Tim Ratliff.

Ratliff injured his right shoulder in last weekend's meet and is unlikely to perform this weekend. Even if he did, he would not be at full strength, a condition he needs to be in for JMU to contend with William and Mary.

"We need an altogether team performance to beat William and Mary," said Gauthier. "We can't replace [Ratliff] on the high bar or [parallel] bar."

The Dukes already know they can beat the Tribe, having done so at the Metro Open tournament in November, so a loss this weekend would not hurt their confidence. This weekend's meet should just reinforce what they've known all along — the team does not have good depth.

This year's squad only has 12 members, making an injury to one, in a six-event meet, hard to fill. Especially when the one is Ratliff, who competes in at least five of the six events.

"When you have someone who is finishing first or second in his events having to be replaced by someone who will finish at the bottom, the difference could be two points," explained Gauthier. "That is where William and Mary is a lot stronger than us. They have more depth."

Track

(Continued from page 17)

While the talent may be young, it's also very impressive.

Headlining an outstanding crop of freshmen is Terrence Sheppard, who, according to Walton, is perhaps the finest track and field recruit ever at JMU.

Sheppard finished second in the 400 meters in the national Junior Olympics in 1984, and has been timed in 10.5 seconds in the 100 meters, and 21.5 seconds in the 200 meters.

Another promising newcomer is Lawrence Smith, who was a member of a state champion 400-meter relay team.

He, along with fellow freshmen Desi Wynter and Kendall Curry, should provide depth in the sprint and relay events.

In-state recruits Tim Kane and Brian Schmidt arrive with impressive credentials from high school. Kane ran a 4:14.03 in the 1,600 meters at the 1986 Virginia Group AAA meet, good for second place, while Schmidt was runner-up in the 3,200 meters with a time of 9:27.69.

With a combination of new and experienced talent this year, Walton has high expectations for his team. "Our yearly goal is to place consistently in the top 10 at the IC4A Championships and beyond that to qualify for the nationals," he said.

He also commented on what he felt was a general misconception about the invitational type meets. He said that a third or fourth place finish in such a meet doesn't necessarily constitute a failure, but must be evaluated in relation to the level of competition.

This year, Walton is assisted by coaches Bruce Coldsmith, a four-time All-Big Eight performer at Kansas, and first-year assistant Rick Kleban, a former All-American in the decathlon at Penn State.

JMU registered several third-place finishes in the Virginia Military Institute Winter Relays Saturday in Lexington.

The Dukes' Kevin Jones and D.D. Manns tied for third in the 300-meter run with times of 35.9 seconds, while Peter Weilenmann placed third in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:58.6.

JMU's Lawrence Smith came in third in the 400-meter run with a 51.0 time, followed by teammate Chris Miller in 51.1.

Terrence Sheppard finished fourth in the 500-meter run with a time of 1:05.9.

The Dukes' mile relay team of Smith, Kendall Curry, Sheppard and Miller placed fourth with a 3:20.1 time.
SPORTSFILE

Swim squad finishes 9-1

The JMU women's swimming team closed its dual meet season with two wins last weekend.

The Dukes defeated William and Mary 157-104 Friday in Williamsburg and Old Dominion 155.5-110.5 Saturday in Norfolk.

Against the Tribe, Jenni Demko (100- and 200-yard freestyle), Donna Rosato (100- and 200-yard breaststroke) and Valerie Donohue (100- and 200-yard butterfly) each won two races for JMU. The Dukes took firsts in 10 of the 16 events.

Against the Monarchs, Annie Jones won the 50- and 100-yard freestyles and Rosato placed first in both the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. The Dukes won 12 of 16 events against ODU.

JMU now will attempt to defend its Colonial Athletic Association title Feb. 11-14 at East Carolina.

FENCING

JMU defeated Mary Baldwin 11-5 Tuesday, raising its record to 3-4.

Angela Leffel and Dina McClanahan each posted 3-1 records for the Dukes.

Tennis

(Continued from page 17)

"There's no pressure on us to win or lose," he said. "We did well to get there...we'll just play the best tennis we can at the moment."

Gaskill added, "We don't have anything to lose. Hopefully we will play relaxed and play pretty well."

JMU figures to improve upon its last women's doubles national performance. Gillies and former Duke Ingrid Hetz qualified for the NCAA tournament last spring, but were eliminated 6-2, 6-1 by Kentucky's Tamaka Takagi and Sonia Hahn.

"I think Terri and I are a better partnership than Ingrid and I," Gillies said. "Terri's better at net and I'm probably better returning serve. We complement each other well."

Another important factor in JMU's effort may be a version of the home-court advantage. Call it the home-state advantage.

"If we had to fly out somewhere like California, it would have been a disaster," Gillies said, "because it would have been impractical."

Gaskill added, "A lot of people are traveling far and we just have to drive right up the road."

Gaskill and Gillies also should have some crowd support, since most of their teammates made the trip to Richmond Wednesday.

Gaskill, a senior playing in her first national event, showed some pre-tournament anxiety.

"We're not going to be killed if we play well," she said. Moments later, she added, "Hopefully."

Men's and women's singles play begins at 9 a.m. today at two different sites, with doubles to follow. First-round losers will play consolation matches.
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To All Guaranteed Student Loan Applicants:
If you will be applying for a Guaranteed Student Loan at any time during the 1987-88 academic year, federal regulations require you to file a FINANCIAL AID FORM WITH THE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE in Princeton, NJ.
Blame the police. That's the easiest thing to do when JMU's campus police do anything to ruin a student's day by enforcing the laws. JMU campus police certainly aren't above reproach. They're human, they make mistakes and they'll tell you so themselves — if students would ask the officers about their actions. Problem is, not many people do.

Today's letter is the second one this year accusing the police of impropriety. In November, a letter from a JMU alumnus arrested for being drunk in public after asking the arresting officer for help getting home. That incident sparked a Student Government Association senate bill of opinion condemning the police. We don't know all the facts behind the charges made today, but we do know that channels exist for effective student/police dialogue.

The easiest way is to go to the police themselves. They will look into legitimate grievances from students who drop by the campus police station with a complaint.

Many complaints are channeled through the dean of students, who exists to mediate student/administration conflicts. The dean's job is to inform students of their rights and how best to approach the administration, including the police, with a complaint.

The SGA president and two Greek senators meet twice monthly with the campus police director to discuss student/police relations. These meetings began shortly after and were prompted partly by last semester's incident with the arrested alumnus. The agendas are open for discussion of any problem brought to the SGA's attention.

These three channels are effective ways of confronting the police with individual complaints. They encourage trust and open communication between police and students and don't rally student antipathy that needlessly makes the police defensive and hostile.

The above editorial is the opinion of The Breeze editorial board.

The board consists of editor Kyra Scarton, managing editor Mark Charnock, editorial editor Charles Lundy and assistant editorial editor Harry Atwood.

A proposal for utilization of student 'power'

The JMU student body wields truly awesome power. We can call a few shots. We can have a say in how things will be done.

If anyone's startled by this, they shouldn't be. College students are notorious for wreaking havoc. The example of student mobs in the '60s don't need to be rehashed here but recent student demonstrations in communist China are making worldwide headlines and causing top leaders to resign. And there's the extreme case of Iranian students who seized the U.S. embassy causing top leaders to resign. And there's the extreme case of Iranian students who seized the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1979.

I went to high school in an authoritarian Third World country whose government is genuinely paranoid about any type of university demonstrations (there had been a few riots). Student leaders were routinely expelled and arrested. And just a shred of rumor that a demonstration was planned prompted mobilization of armored riot police on major street corners. Without warrants, the police would randomly stop and search anybody looking like a college student.

The reason: whenever Western TV crews happened to be around during a full-blown student demonstration, the country looked unstable to the outside world and the government looked desperate when it overreacted by sending in the troops and tear gas. The students could create devastating public relations problems for the government and the government knew it.

But this doesn't really describe JMU. Harrisonburg officials aren't as likely to overreact to the "threat" of a student demonstration, nobody but Channel 3 is around to cover anything (unless buildings are burned down, but I hope nobody wants to go that far), and the tactics used by our colleagues in China aren't really called for since our basic civil liberties don't seem to be on the line. But let's consider something relatively peaceful.

Let's suppose we shut the university down for a day. We could all blow off class, sit peacefully on the quad, and contemplate the clouds in true Charlie Brown fashion.

What could the administration do? Call in state policemen to force us into class? They'd be pretty ignorant if they believed we thought we could be shot for playing hocky. Have us arrested for loitering? If they ask us to move, we'll all go back to our dorms where we have a right to be. Hand out failing grades? It's just one day of class.

JMU can't operate if the students don't cooperate. If we demonstrated this kind of organization and resolve, the administration would be forced to at least listen to our demands, especially if we sounded capable of pulling it off whenever we felt like it.

That's power.

Of course, it won't change the world and it certainly wouldn't force impossible concessions like a grading system by lottery or continental breakfasts in bed for every student. But realistically applied, who knows what the university would be forced to consider?

All we need is a motivating cause. I don't have one to suggest; just an effective way to support one if anybody does.

But I certainly would love to hear the fiery speech that "Uncle Ron" probably would give from the steps of Wilson Hall. Would the good humor that has expanded this university be enough to get us back into class?

Charles Lundy is a senior majoring in political science and English.
JMU 'Barney Fifes have finally done it'

To the editor:

The JMU police have finally done it this time! For three and a half years, I've heard all the horror stories of students finding three or four tickets on their cars after leaving it for 45 minutes in a lot reserved for JMU's "sovereign" faculty members. I've also been told of verbal harassment and intimidation by JMU's "finest." But after the incident of Jan. 16, I have completely and unequivocally lost all respect for this collective group of overweight "Barney Fifes."

On Jan. 16, after leaving JM's, a JMU sorority member was walking home to Greek Row. During Christmas break, the student had undergone corrective surgery on her left foot. She was wearing a protective cast and using crutches. She had been lured to the Health Center because she thought she had accidentally stepped on her foot. She was wearing a protective cast and using crutches. She had been lured to the Health Center because she thought she had accidentally stepped on her foot.

Seeing a campus police car nearby, she asked the officer if he could drive her to the top of Greek Row, greatly reducing her walk. The officer was kind enough to lecture the student for five minutes on how she should have been using her crutches and how she only wanted to be lakenjB to the Health Center. After bringing the student to the Health Center, the police promptly wrote her a ticket for crossing a pedestrian lane!

Another example reeks of the campus police's lack of any consideration toward JMU students. Last semester, an undergraduate student fell and injured herself at a sorority party on Greek Row. Campus police were called to take care of the injured student who was in serious enough condition to require admission to the Health Center. After bringing the student outside, the police promptly wrote the girl a ticket for underaged consumption of alcohol.

Talk about exposing to legal liability! Was the writing of the ticket so important that it couldn't wait until the girl had been treated for her injuries? What if the student had lapsed into a coma or perhaps tried to flee the police? We're talking about a lawsuit with seven figures for reckless endangerment and mental harassment. Do the campus police really think students will ask for their assistance in the future? No way!

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So how about all you "beer-bellied Barney Fifes" giving consideration a try for a change? All you've accomplished through all this tough talk is a total loss of respect and an increase in the contempt for campus cops. I've had it!

Jay Smith
senior finance

Bank suggests solutions to lines

To the editor:

To all of you who have been waiting in our bank lines: We have heard your comments and understand your concern!

We have been in constant communication with the Student Government Association and know that there is a long wait for those of you who come to our bank in the Warren Campus Center during the busy hours of 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please remember that we will make every effort to have all three windows open until 1:30 p.m. each day; after 1:30 we have to balance and because of time constraints and space limitations we are only able to have two windows open.

In order to avoid long lines, please try to use our 24-hour bank machine located at Gibbons Hall or come do your banking early in the day or between 3 to 5 p.m.

We have extended hours each day for your convenience: 9 to 5 p.m. and do sincerely appreciate your business!

Kathryn R. Sears
assistant vice president
First American Bank of Virginia

Letters Policy

The Breeze welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Letters should be typed and include the writer's name, phone number, academic year and major. Letters without this information cannot be published.

Letters to the editor:

To the editor:

I was one of the 6,912 spectators at the GMU — JMU mens' basketball game on Saturday night and I was really disappointed in the JMU fans' attitudes towards the visiting team.

I transferred from GMU last year and I had several friends down to visit and see the game. I had told them that they would be impressed with the university's tremendous school spirit. But, by the end of the game, I found myself apologizing to them for the treatment they, and GMU fans in general, received at the game. The JMU student sitting next to us was so drunk that anytime some GMU fans in the lower bleacher seats would stand up and cheer, the student would get up and throw cups at them to make them sit down.

I realize this is a specific case, but I thought some of the JMU fans were rude to our opponents. When there is a game that is as close and intense as Saturday's game, fans get much more excited, and sometimes more aggressive. But the fans must understand that in order for a game to be close, the two teams probably have the same approximate level of ability. Therefore, no one should be "booed" for cheering an opponent's good shot or play, because it sometimes more aggressive. But the fans must understand that in order for a game to be close, the two teams probably have the same approximate level of ability. Therefore, no one should be "booed" for cheering an opponent's good shot or play, because it determines the team winning. The players and the coaching staff are the individuals who should determine the game's outcome, without the fans supporting the opponents' cause. JMU fans should use other alternatives to show their support for the Dukes.

So, in the future, let's keep the toilet paper in the restrooms, and off the basketball court.

Chris Power
senior finance

Toilet paper tradition hinders team

To the editor:

After the Dukes' first basket in Saturday's home game against George Mason, rolls of toilet paper streamed towards the court. Only a single roll made it to its destination, prompting the officials to assess the JMU fans a technical foul. George Mason converted the free throw, which later almost directly affected the outcome of the game.

Basketball games are great to watch, especially when it's decided in overtime, as this one was. Also, the bottom line in this game was a Dukes victory, and the toilet paper thankfully did not affect the outcome.

Enthusiastic support is good for the team, but the thoughtless behavior of a certain few may hinder the chances of the team winning. The players and the coaching staff are the individuals who should determine the game's outcome, without the fans supporting the opponents' cause. JMU fans should use other alternatives to show their support for the Dukes.

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Fans' attitudes 'disappointing'

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By the way, a special thanks to the JMU basketball team for a fantastic victory over GMU — that's what impressed my friends the most.

Celia Klein
sophomore
communication/political science
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