

The Breeze

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Vol. 92, No. 14
Thursday, October 10, 2013

Faculty Senate proposes finals 'reading week'

Faculty debates practicality of pre-finals week devoted to studying

By IJ CHAN
The Breeze

In the spring, students might not find themselves as cramped they were last year during finals.

Last Thursday at its monthly meeting, members of the Faculty Senate proposed and discussed the possibility of changing the spring 2014 final exam schedule to give students a period of "reading days," where they could prepare for exams.

The resolution proposes that classes end on Friday, April 25. A four-day reading period would follow from Saturday, April 26 through Tuesday, 29. Exams would be held on Wednesday, April 30 to May 2, and Monday, May 5 to Wednesday, May 7.

"Most schools, especially those schools who are striving for academic rigor, have reading days. If people want it to be more academically rigorous, one way to do this is to say, 'Students, we actually do expect a lot from you during your exams — you need an extra day or two to study.'"

Nate Wright
chemistry professor

The resolution states that having a reading period would give students "time to prepare for finals and thus encouraging them to strive for academic excellence."

Nate Wright, a chemistry professor, said adding a period of reading days would allow and encourage students to do better on their exams.

Wright said it's a better schedule because students can focus solely on their exams rather than having to cram during the last week of classes or final exam week.

"Most schools, especially those schools who are striving for academic rigor, have reading days," he said. "If people want it to be more academically rigorous, one of the way to do this is to say, 'Students, we actually do expect a lot from you during your exams — you need an extra day or two to study.'"

Although many senators supported the idea, many questioned whether having reading days would actually become a burden to faculty, who might have already planned their classes through Thursday, May 1 — the last day of classes.

Music professor Bryce Hayes said it's probably too late for JMU to change anything for this year. The performance dates and schedules at the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, he said, are already set in stone and would complicate the situation.

"We have curriculum performances and ensembles that run through the first week of May," he said. "Tickets are already being sold for it and the space is completely booked for them, so we can't make this shift in the spring, at least in my end of the world."

Some mentioned that students might take advantage of the extra days, but for the wrong reasons.

"The faculty have to take ownership and let it be beneficial to students," kinesiology professor Susan Nye said. "If we just classify it as a reading day, no offense, but I know a number of

see SENATE, page 3

RACE TO THE FINISH

Independent Robert Sarvis hosts town hall meeting at Taylor Down Under



HOLLY WARFIELD / THE BREEZE

Robert Sarvis came to JMU last night and met with students, faculty and community members. He focused on education and jobs.

By ALANA SCHARLOP
The Breeze

As Robert Sarvis gains popularity in Virginia, he's also reaching out to the state's students.

Sarvis, the Libertarian candidate in the upcoming gubernatorial election, came to JMU last night and met with about 75 students, faculty and community members in Taylor Down Under to get them involved in his campaign and inform them about his Libertarian stance.

Soheil Rahbar, a junior kinesiology major, stressed the importance of knowing your candidate of choice and how decisions made by the elected will greatly affect the college-aged generation.

"I believe in the beliefs of the Libertarian Party," Rahbar said. "It's not enough to just go out and vote. That's pointless. You need to be educated and go vote."

According to Sarvis' campaign site, he supports marriage equality, restoring civil liberties and immigration rights. He also wants allow parents to have better control of how they spend money on their children's education.

Sarvis spent a majority of the time fielding what he thinks are the two most important stances for improving Virginia — job regeneration and education advancement. He also emphasized the importance of getting college students to the polls.

"Young people are in the perfect position to see all of the

see SARVIS, page 4

Republican Ken Cuccinelli talks education reform with panel of JMU students



BRIAN PRESCOTT / THE BREEZE

Ken Cuccinelli spoke with interdisciplinary liberal studies students and members of the College Republicans about education reform on Tuesday.

By WAYNE EPPS JR.
The Breeze

With the election just 26 days away, Virginia attorney general and gubernatorial candidate Ken Cuccinelli made a stop at JMU Tuesday.

Cuccinelli, the Republican candidate, spoke about his plan for K-12 education in a closed session with a handful of students in Taylor Hall. The session lasted about 30 minutes and was a part of Cuccinelli's tour up Interstate 81, during which he visited Roanoke, Harrisonburg and then Northern Virginia.

Members of the JMU College Republicans and some interdisciplinary liberal studies majors interested in the possible direction of the state's education programs came to hear what Cuccinelli had to say.

"I'm not from Virginia, but my mom is a teacher," sophomore foreign language and justice studies double major and College Republican Anja Hencken said. "So when I heard that [he was going to speak] on education, I thought it would be interesting to go and find out what he had to say about it."

For two students, the interaction with Cuccinelli started early. College Republicans Wes Fisher and Cole Trower picked up the candidate at the Shenandoah Valley Regional airport and drove him to and from campus.

"It was pretty cool," Fisher, a junior business management major,

see CUCCINELLI, page 4

Battle for the stage

JMU students win major prizes and funding in Mid-Atlantic Battle of the Bands



COURTESY OF SWELL DAZE

Swell Daze won first place at the Mid-Atlantic Battle of the Bands on Sept. 28 at Empire in Springfield, Va.

By LAUREN HUNT
The Breeze

Battle of the Bands. You've seen them in movies: packed venues, screaming fans, a table full of judges and dozens of nervous musicians playing their hearts out to make their dreams come true. Well that plot line has come to Harrisonburg with JMU's own Swell Daze.

Swell Daze is the true embodiment of starting from the bottom and working your way up: It has come a long way from playing at parties in the band members' hometown of Purcellville, Va. The band's original song, "Hooked," has been used on the Discovery Channel's show "Saint Hoods" and has been licensed to Tony Hawk's Ride channel on YouTube. Its debut EP made it to No. 167 on the CMJ college radio charts and has been licensed to several networks, including MTV, VH1, E! and NASCAR. The band has been sponsored by Red Bull Soundstage in 2012, and most recently, won a Battle of the Bands competition in Springfield, Va.

Guitarist Addison Smith, a sophomore chemistry major, and drummer Titus Barton, a sophomore business management major, grew up in the same neighborhood and began playing together when they both took up their respective instruments in middle school.

Smith and Barton decided to form a band in 2010. Smith met their lead singer, McCoy Douglasson, a freshman elementary education major at Liberty University, through his praise band at church. "And our bassist at the time, who's not the same bassist as we have now, went to the same school so we all got together and tried to make it work."

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MISSION

The Breeze, the student-run newspaper of James Madison University, serves student, faculty and staff readership by reporting news involving the campus and local community. The Breeze strives to be impartial and fair in its reporting and firmly believes in First Amendment rights.

Published Monday and Thursday mornings, The Breeze is distributed throughout James Madison University and the local Harrisonburg community. Single copies of The Breeze are distributed free of charge. Additional copies are available for 50 cents by contacting our business office. Comments and complaints should be addressed to Sean Cassidy, editor.

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Corrections

- In the Oct. 7 news article "Board of Visitors examines six-year plan, QEP," it was inadvertently stated that staff and faculty would not receive a raise in the next three years according to the six-year plan. The Board of Visitors has approved the plan, which has projected raises, but nothing has been decided at this time. The plan will be submitted to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.
- The six-year plan consists of what's projected for the upcoming years and outlines priorities for the university. SCHEV didn't present its six-year plan last Friday. The Board of Visitors presented, approved and will submit their six-year plan to SCHEV.
- Bill Wyatt, associate director of communications and deputy university spokesperson, said that "raises for faculty members remains a top priority for the university."
- The article also incorrectly said that the university plans to reduce out-of-state enrollment. There is no plan to reduce out-of-state enrollment. Charles King Jr., discussed increasing the number of in-state students, first-time freshmen and total degrees earned.

To view the complete revised article visit breezejmu.org/news.

press **play** 



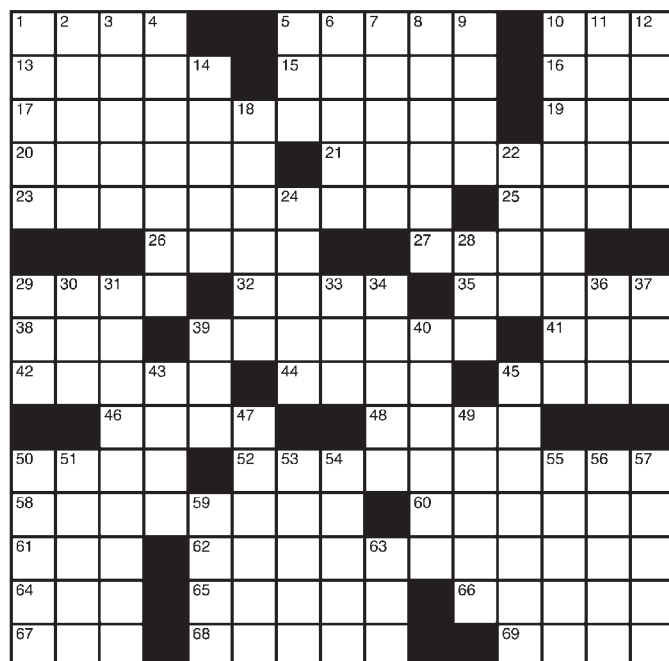
Sports editors Wayne Epps Jr. and Hayley Thompson discuss the emergence of underclassmen like RB Khalid Abdullah on this week's Breeze SportsCenter. Watch at breezejmu.org/multimedia.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- Kindle add-ons
- Fight
- Rainy day consequence
- Wool source
- Personal strength
- George's songwriting partner
- *Slow-to-develop sort
- Cover
- Work in which ligo is a baritone
- Spot for a Hindu's tilak
- *Precursor to adoption, often
- Like an unswept fireplace
- "Ring Cycle" goddess
- Skip over
- Hubbub
- Gloss targets
- Mau'i howdy
- Amigo
- Pound spenders
- Postal motto word
- Coffee shop feature
- Half a sci-fi sign-off
- Yard parts
- Star in Lyra
- Sphere opening
- Gray ___
- *Bargain hunter's destination
- All one can stomach
- Northwest college town where "Animal House" was filmed
- Big bird
- Salad choice, and a literal description of the starts of the answers to starred clues
- Twitch
- Witch
- Where many tennis winners are hit
- Farm structure
- Father of Moses
- Word after high or open



10/10/13

DOWN

- "___ the Lights": Kanye West song
- First philosopher to mention Atlantis
- Gourmet spreads
- Ore refinery
- Fiscal VIP
- Bubble bath accessory
- Hard wear?
- Music provider
- On hand
- *21st birthday, e.g.
- Hater of David, in Dickens
- Pops
- More qualified
- Imperious
- Flag down
- ___ terrier: Highlands hunter
- More, in Madrid
- Relaxing getaway
- La Brea goo
- *Old TV title shown in a heart
- Newscaster Lindström
- Capital SSW of Riyadh

Monday's puzzle solved

H	U	M	P	A	L	E	C	K	A	S	A	P		
O	R	E	O	C	A	D	R	E	T	E	R	I		
F	A	S	T	D	I	G	I	N	R	E	N	T		
F	L	A	T	S	C	R	E	E	N	I	D	E	S	
A	S	S	E	T	S	E	R	U	M					
				R	U	M	B	A	L	E	M	O	N	S
H	E	H	S	O	U	C	H	A	S	N	O	T		
A	D	O	B	E	D	H	E	A	D	E	R	A		
R	I	T	Z	Y	S	E	A	L	C	Y	A	N		
D	E	P	A	R	T	D	R	A	W	L				
				E	N	D	U	P	C	U	S	P	S	
H	O	P	I	S	E	A	B	I	S	C	U	I	T	
A	L	P	E	H	A	R	E	S	K	E	P	I		
L	I	E	S	I	R	E	N	E	E	D	E	N		
F	O	R	T	E	L	A	T	E	D	E	S	K		

- Weeder's tool
- Busts, perhaps
- Lose tensile strength
- Pumpkin pie spice
- ___ ticket
- Evolves beyond forgiveness
- Maintain as true
- Tierney of "ER"
- Drives the getaway car for
- Mail payment
- Vegas hotel with a Sphinx re-creation
- Colleague of Ruth and Sonia
- New Hampshire city
- Nine: Pref.
- Lab work
- Village People classic
- Rep.'s rival



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IN BRIEF

HARRISONBURG

Police investigating BB gun incident that wounded man

The Harrisonburg Police Department said on Monday at about 1:27 a.m., officers responded to a call that shots had been fired at 328 Franklin St., Apt. 6 and they found a man with gunshot wounds to the face.

Police were able to determine that the shots came from a BB gun, which was found at the location. Officers were able to locate the man, who, although wounded, wasn't severely injured. Police say no arrests have been made and the situation is still under investigation.

Harrisonburg Fire Department celebrates National Fire Prevention Week

Every day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., HFD will have a display set up in the Valley Mall aimed at educating community members on fire safety.

The display also shows the effectiveness of a Stovetop Firestop, a small, automatic fire extinguisher that's designed specifically to put out kitchen fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association, cooking fires are the No. 1 cause of home fires and cooking fires are the leading cause of fire-related injuries.

Visitors who take a tour of the display will receive one free pair of Stovetop Firestop extinguishers while supplies last.

Throughout the week, community members can register to be a part of the Emergency Alert System, which will notify registered members if an emergency situation occurs in the area. Anyone from Harrisonburg and Rockingham County can register.

QEP puts minds to the test

JMU prepares students for the future by integrating ethical reasoning into classes

By MOLLY JACOB
The Breeze

Many students are unaware of the Madison Collaborative: Ethical Reasoning in Action, a program created to teach students how to apply critical thinking about ethics to all aspects of JMU life and beyond.

"I don't feel like I have been that exposed to the Madison Collaborative around campus," said Catherine Policastro, a sophomore media arts and design major. "Everything I know about it came from my experience as a FrOG."

The Madison Collaborative is part of JMU's Quality Enhancement Plan and was introduced to freshmen at this year's 1787 August Orientation, so upperclassmen may not be familiar with what it is or how it will affect their experience at JMU.

Every five years, schools in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools like JMU that wish to reaffirm their accreditation must create a QEP that focusing on relevant campus issues with a goal of institutional improvement. JMU's QEP is a five-year program focused on complicated ethical problems and teaching students to use critical thinking skills in issues involving many ethical dimensions.

"Ethical situations arise in all areas of our lives and cannot be isolated to only academics or our personal relationships," said Lori Pyle, the associate chair of the Madison Collaborative. "A comprehensive approach to thinking through those situations will serve all of us well individually, as a community, and globally."

As part of the 1787 August Orientation program, freshmen participated in a thought experiment where they were shown a video about a fictitious hurricane which devastated both residential and business areas in parts of New Jersey and New York City. As part of the simulation, they split up into smaller groups within their FrOG groups and imagined as though they were FEMA employees who had to decide what course of action to take.

The freshmen were faced with many challenges because all but two of FEMA's emergency rescue teams were destroyed in the natural disaster, so they had to decide which suffering areas were most worthy of their limited resources.

Anthony Barletta, a freshman engineering major, thought that this simulation was engaging and the issues involved were a good



Eight key dimensions for problem solving

1. Outcomes
2. Fairness
3. Authority
4. Liberty
5. Rights
6. Responsibility
7. Empathy
8. Character

JILLIAN PAUL / THE BREEZE

representation of how complex ethical situations can be.

"I thought it made us think critically," Barletta said. "I had to think of the greater good and not just one person."

Barletta and his group decided to send rescue teams to a flooded women's prison in Bridgeport and to poor neighborhoods in the Bronx, saying that this decision helped the most people possible.

"We were trying to find how we could help the greater good," Barletta said. "We used the Eight Key Questions to help us solve the problem."

The Madison Collaborative has made ethical reasoning applicable through its "Eight Key Questions," which are critical thinking questions such as "What are the short-term and long-term outcomes of possible actions?" and "What duties and obligations apply?"

Students taking General Education classes, particularly in Cluster Four; social and cultural processes, can expect to see these questions play a prominent role in their classes this year. Last May, 25 GenEd professors participated in two Madison Collaborative workshops where they were introduced to ways to include ethical reasoning skills into their curriculum.

After attending the workshop, anthropology professors Dr. Rebecca Howes-Mischel and Dr. Amy Paugh decided they would use the QEP's focus on ethical reasoning skills to

help students in their Introduction to Cultural Anthropology courses understand moral issues surrounding cultural relativism.

They asked their students to understand controversial issues such as female genital operations from a number of perspectives.

"Our goal for the activity was to encourage students to really grapple with what it means to say 'it's complicated' and to consider how ethical reasoning might be shaped by different cultural contexts," Howes-Mischel said. "Ultimately, we want students to see connections between course materials and their on-going work of living in a complicated and global world."

Additionally, the Madison Collaborative Freshman Course is a non-credit course currently under development for a pilot launch in fall 2014 that freshmen will take so they can be exposed to ethical thinking and how to apply the "Eight Key Questions" to certain situations and decisions.

"The response from various academic and administrative units has been incredibly encouraging, especially considering that we've only just begun," Pyle said. "We hope to continue building interest among General Education and all faculty over the coming years."

As part of the Madison Collaborative's

see QEP, page 4

SENATE | 'Reading days' could be structured

from front

students who will take a four-day hiatus."

Teresa Gonzalez, vice provost for academic programs, said she remembers that in the past, students didn't take advantage of the reading days. Gonzalez suggested that there be more of a structured schedule to the reading days to encourage students to study.

"If we're going to make a reading day, if we're going to make that proposal, I think we would also need to set up something that would be expected of students to encourage them to read," she said. "There could be activities structured or some sort of collaboration with Residence Life and Student Activities [and Involvement] to make sure that there's an atmosphere an expectation from faculty and everybody else that it's a preparation day."

But Josh Humphries, a sophomore political science major and student representative to the Faculty Senate, thinks students would actually take advantage of the reading days.

"We're almost taking a step backward by taking an exam on Saturday and ending class on Friday," he said. "I don't have time to review material for an exam that I have on Saturday morning for all semester let alone start studying for my exams that I have on that Monday or that Tuesday."

Humphries added although students might not be studying, it's still beneficial to let them rest before finals.

"I want to dispel the concern about having 'hangover days,' or those type of days. I think that's a minority of students... and I would hate for that image to be portrayed among all students," he said. "That's certainly not the case for me, I would probably spend half the day watching 'Downton Abbey'... I need some relaxation and it's healthy for students to have some time to get their mind away from exams."

CONTACT IJ Chan at breeze@jmu.edu

Composing an education

David Cottrell dedicates his time to his students and making them laugh

By ERIC GRAVES
The Breeze

Every Thursday, *The Breeze* will be running a Q&A with one of JMU's professors. This week we're featuring music professor David Cottrell. He's an Emmy award-winning composer, performed for the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra and has written musical scores for over 150 hours of television, including the Discovery Channel and the Travel Channel.

Q: How would you describe your teaching style?

A: I mean, that's like asking, what's my hairstyle? I don't have one. I really try to look at the material through the eyes of the students. I took a sabbatical. I knew I was teaching a class on recording and I remember sitting there thinking 'my brain is full.'

The professor was saying 'Do this, do that, here's how you do this and that.' It lasted a week and you had to take a test which you had to pass. And it was hard. I've been teaching a lot of material that I've been using for years and years so it was easy for me. So I got acquainted with 'Oh, when you're teaching a person new material it's hard for them. And how does it feel to be put into a position of 'This is not easy.'

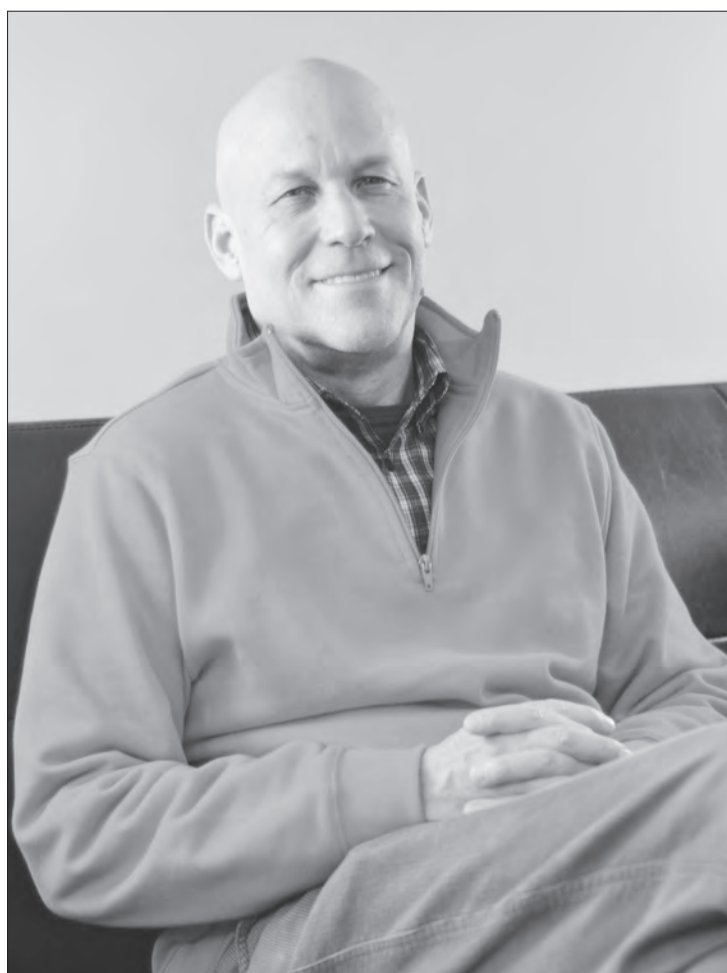
A lot of us, we teach what we do so it's easy for us. But for you guys, it's not. It's not that you're lazy, it's that you may never have thought about it.

I realize it takes time for it to work. I really try to communicate with a real interest and passion and humor with the understanding that it might be the first time someone has heard this. So I really try to break it down so that it's understandable.

My goal is to not only communicate information but to create a desire to make the student learn more. You can find any information you want, you just have to have a want to find it.

Q: What have you learned the most from your time at JMU?

A: Every generation of kids is going to be different and you have to change



JAMES CHUNG / THE BREEZE

David Cottrell, a music professor, has been teaching since 1982. He enjoys spending time with his dog, Penelope, whom he occasionally brings to his office hours.

your teaching styles. You can't present the same material the same way every single time. What worked 10 years ago won't work now. I've been teaching since 1982 and I've seen a lot of changes. Some bemoan those changes.

You're so used to these new smart devices. You push a button and expect it do something. A few years ago that was inconceivable.

As an educator, you really have to keep your students in mind when you're thinking about how to explain things.

It's not enough to say, 'Oh these young people aren't doing what they

should do.' Well they grew up in a world so different from what we grew up in, and you have to understand.

Q: What's the most influential or inspiring moment you've had as a professor?

A: I went to a conference right after my sabbatical and there was a guy that was presenting. He said 'Look, I used to teach 100 percent of information to kids. I used to start at the upper left-hand side of the board and when I was done I was at the bottom right hand side. It was all perfect and the kids were

looking at it like 'I'm never going to be able to do that.'

What I do now is I take 80 percent of what I was trying to teach and spend a good amount of time on it, ask questions and study it together. That way kids can look at it and think 'Oh! I can do that!' That influenced me every time I go to a classroom. I'm not here as an expert.

I'm here as someone who's trying to somehow create a learning environment in which students actively participate. That's really what changed how I approach teaching.

Honestly, I just enjoy the energy of the class, even if it's directed against me. You guys have your own agendas, but I have graduates who are very successful and I really enjoy hearing about them. I enjoy hearing from all the kids, what they do with their life is their choice.

Q: What's the funniest thing about you?

A: I love to play the French horn, I do that for fun, I used to teach French horn as an instructor. I won an Emmy by accident; we didn't mean to win it.

But we did, which was pretty fun. Every day is a gift — I really feel fortunate to be a part of you young people and teaching you and showing you the mistakes I made and trying to get you to not make mine. Here's what I did when I was your age, and it didn't work out for me. Here's why.

Q: Weirdest trait about yourself?

A: When possible, I bring my dog to office hours. Penelope, a pug and Jack Russell terrier mix. She is delightful company and very intelligent.

Q: What's the first thing people usually think when they meet you?

A: Oh no ... not him!

CONTACT Eric Graves at gravesem@dukes.jmu.edu.

CUCCINELLI | Wants to expand online learning opportunities for students

from front

said. "He had governors from other states calling him, like Scott Walker and Bobby Jindal while he was in the car, and we chatted about some stuff."

Once at JMU, Cuccinelli touched on the four core principles of his K-12 plan: empowerment, excellence, opportunity and accountability.

"This is a plan I think that we've put forward that reaches across the spectrum," Cuccinelli said. "We've had Democratic support for it. One of the TV ads we ran recently was Tichi Eppes, who's a Democrat school board member in Richmond."

Deficiencies in the K-12 system — like poor Standards of Learning passing rates and high dropout rates in certain areas — were cited as economic issues long term.

"One thing I hear from employers a lot is, 'Look, we have job slots, but we can't find people to fill them with the particular skills that we need,'" Cuccinelli said. "And I've actually been surprised at how prevalent that kind of comment is. And if you talk to the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, they will tell you that workforce development is the No. 1 priority among a higher percentage of their members of all of the issues they survey." Reforming SOLs — required

yearly benchmark tests taken by Virginia public school students—is one of the issues Cuccinelli cited as most important. He talked about his plan for an Academics, Parents, Principals, Leaders, Educators and Students Commission to revise the program.

"Have academics and principles and leaders and educators together, sitting down, to evolve the Standards of Learning testing so that we move away from teaching to the test so that we get fairer evaluations of teachers out of the process than we can get right now," Cuccinelli said. "And we get a more dynamic set of tests available to us, so everybody doesn't have to sit

down at the same day everywhere in Virginia and take the same test to evaluate where they are academically."

Fisher can attest to the need for SOL reform.

"I went to a public high school in Virginia and it was a good school, but I just remember I hated having to take the [SOLs]," Fisher said. "I felt that they were a waste of time, it just kind of teaches you the bare minimum of what you need to know to pass the SOL."

Cuccinelli would like the tests to focus more on dynamic problem solving. He would also like the tests to be effective in measuring performance, allowing funds to be repurposed to reward schools

that improve or maintain high performance levels.

Another prominent part of Cuccinelli's plan is technology. He wants to expand digital learning opportunities — online classes. This would give students the opportunity to take courses that may not be offered at their own schools.

"They can aggregate some of their students with other localities and the teacher who has the opportunity to teach them can be one making extra pay to do it," Cuccinelli said.

As brief as the roundtable was, it's clear that hearing Cuccinelli's stance on education from the candidate himself made an impact on those in attendance.

"I'm not very involved in politics, but as an education major, I thought it was really interesting and enlightening to hear Cuccinelli speak about his plans," junior interdisciplinary liberal studies major Brooke Thompson said. "It's just nice to hear that there's such a strong focus on education right now, and it's a priority that he has and that the government has right now to reform the current education system."

Cuccinelli will be back in the area Saturday for a 10:00 a.m. rally at the Harrisonburg Victory Center on Neff Avenue.

CONTACT Wayne Epps Jr. at breezesports@gmail.com.

SARVIS | Has his focus on education and jobs

from front

pathologies of our political system and the effects that it has on people's lives," he said.

David Pierre-Louis, a senior theatre and dance major, said he wants to know as much as possible before he votes.

"I came to hear the other party's platform, so I can make an educated vote," he said.

Students were excited to connect with Sarvis in their element

and on topics that are influential on students' daily lives.

Sarvis said he has a desire to reach out to those affected by rising tuition rates, marriage equality and Internet freedom. He also spent time differentiating himself from other candidates.

"What really sets me apart is not my view on any one particular issue but I'm willing to support freedom and the rule of law on every issue, standing

on principle instead of sort of picking and choosing where I'd like people to be able to be able to live their lives," Sarvis said.

Gaining quick recognition with what *The Washington Post* calls a "dent in Virginia politics," Sarvis is polling at 10 percent and he continues to rise.

Cloe Barnes, a junior kinesiology major and recent Libertarian follower, brought to light the importance of seeing the issues at face value instead

of aligning a specific candidate just because of their party.

"People need to stop voting along party lines and need to actually look at the platforms because I never would have heard about [Sarvis] and actually do any research outside my field, but everyone should educate themselves on the candidates," Barnes said.

CONTACT Alana Scharlop at breezenews@gmail.com.

QEP | Integrated into summer 1787 Orientation

from page 3

mission to bring ethical reasoning skills into all aspects of JMU life, they have encouraged co-curriculars and student organizations to incorporate thinking about ethics into programs and events.

Examples of this integration can be found in University Recreation, which includes the "Eight Key Questions" as part of its student employee training; the Presidential Leadership Academy, a week-long program for 35 presidents of student organizations which incorporated an ethical reasoning case scenario; and Office of Residence Life, which encourages resident advisers to guide their residents to make more sound decisions using these moral-based questions.

Pyle wants JMU graduates to be known for their ability to critically examine the many sides of ethical situations.


"To achieve that, we need to

connect the various academic, student life and administrative units on campus," Pyle said. "We envision that in five years students will not only be familiar with applying the Eight Key Questions, but that it will become second nature to them."

Policastro believes 1787 August Orientation was an effective way to introduce the Madison Collaborative's mission to prepare students to begin using critical thinking skills in their everyday lives.

"The ethical reasoning skills are definitely important for JMU students to develop," Policastro said. "We are all going to be faced with difficult situations, both while at JMU and beyond our college careers, and knowing about the Eight Key Questions can be useful when we need to make important decisions."

CONTACT Molly Jacob at jacobmm@dukes.jmu.edu.



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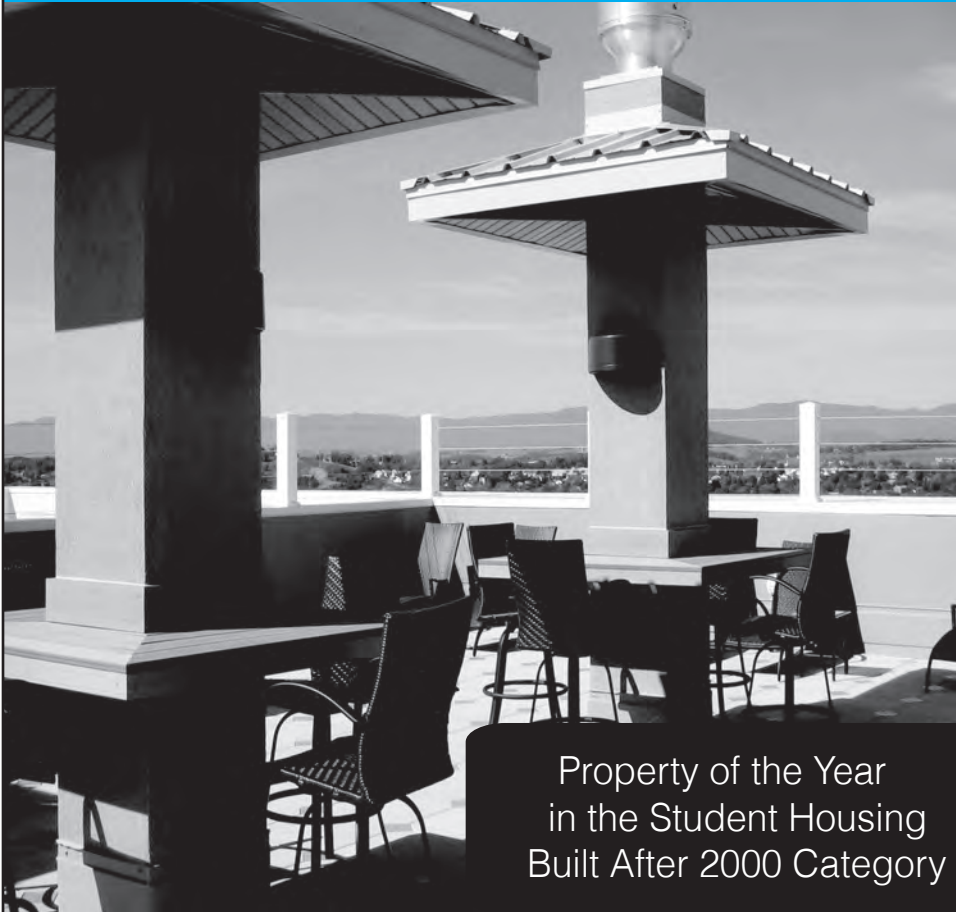
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SPENCER WARD / THE BREEZE

COREY TIERNEY | contributing columnist

Why 'The Simpsons' writers aren't saying 'D'oh!'

Coming into its 26th season, America's favorite animated show has a lot to teach us about television

If you ask the average television viewer for the best show in American history, you're likely to get tallies for "Mad Men" or "Breaking Bad." There's a dark horse, however, that many people seem to forget about. As of this week, FOX has renewed "The Simpsons" for its record-breaking 26th season.

The series has been airing since 1989, making it older than most undergraduates. It was originally a part of "The Tracey Ullman Show" as a short, but received its own full-length spin-off after appearing on the variety show for three seasons. Since its independence, "The Simpsons" has produced 531 episodes, a feature film and countless other media that include multiple video game franchises and comic books.

So how has this dysfunctional family from Springfield captured the hearts of Americans for so many years? My money is on the series' creator, Matt Groening, who is a man of many talents. He was the head writer for seasons one and two, and has been executive producer, writer and creative consultant for its entirety.

As a writer, Groening is smart. I watch the show (as I have since childhood) and realize that he subscribes to the "keep it simple, stupid" method. There is something to be said for a writer who can make classic jokes without gimmicks that keep people coming back. Overall, this is something most modern sitcoms lack.

Take, for example "The Big Bang Theory," which relies on "smart humor" to carry its otherwise repetitive and usually romance-driven plot lines. Not to mention that most people mindlessly watch it and just chime in with a chuckle whenever the laugh track is blasted. If you want real entertainment, watch an awkward clip of that show without the pre-recorded laughs. Also, before any skeptics tell me that Jim Parsons has "earned" three Emmys, you should know that "The Simpsons" currently holds 28 of them.

Some people believe that as a sitcom, "The Simpsons" is in a separate category because of the animated format. However, its track record shows that it is a contender in the primetime circuit,

and is also a shining example of how animation can be taken seriously. This is compared to something like "South Park," which attempts to be offensive in order to get attention. I understand its ironic and satirical attempts at social commentary, but the show has also generated enough controversies to rival Homer Simpson's weight.

There is something to be said for a writer who can make classic jokes without gimmicks that keep people coming back. Overall, this is something most modern sitcoms lack.

The difference between our beloved yellow family and the other shows mentioned is largely audience. If you were to take a survey of JMU students, many would say that they watched "The Simpsons" as a child, and I can

almost guarantee that half as many watched (or were even allowed to watch) "South Park." A general audience does wonders, and it's probably why "The Simpsons" is currently the longest running animated series, sitcom and primetime scripted series.

As a 9-year-old I loved "The Simpsons," and 11 years later I feel just the same. However, it's not just the millennials who adore the show. My mother owns every season on DVD, yet she's currently in her 40s. In a positive sense, there's no set demographic. It all goes back to Groening's ability to make everyone laugh, regardless of what they deem offensive or funny.

Running gags like "D'oh" and Homer choking Bart and yelling "WHY YOU LITTLE!" are not just fan favorites, but staples in American culture. "The Simpsons" is proof that not only can a comedy become a success, but that animation as a whole can stand up to period dramas or trendy shows about meth.

Corey Tierney is a junior media arts and design major. Contact Corey at tierneccm@dukes.jmu.

Letter to the Editor

McAuliffe's smear campaign

I want to address the false attack that Terry McAuliffe has been making against Ken Cuccinelli, which the JMU College Democrats astoundingly repeated in its article for *The Breeze*, "McAuliffe's big plan."

Ken Cuccinelli's office did not oppose the Violence Against Women Act. The reason he didn't sign the letter signed by 47 other attorney generals is simply because his office has a policy not to sign letters addressing national issues.

This policy was adopted because his office would often get such requests to support national legislation, but often the legislation would change while the request was being sent. It would have been the same if 47 attorney generals wrote a letter demanding a national right to work law.

The fact is that during his time as Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli has been a fierce defender of sexual assault victims just as he was as an undergraduate at University of Virginia, where he started a program called S.A.F.E. (Sexual Assault: Facts and Education) after one of his hall mates was a victim of attempted assault. One example during his time as attorney general is Operation Phalanx, which was a collaborative effort between the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces and the attorney general's office. The operation resulted in the arrest of over 20 sex offenders. Also, as a state senator, Cuccinelli had a stellar record in regards to human trafficking, introducing Human Anti-Trafficking Act and was appointed to the Human Trafficking Commission.

Terry McAuliffe has resorted to smear tactics to try to win this election. My hope is that Virginians will reject his derelict campaign tactics as a sign of weak leadership.

Christopher Medrano

Class of 2016

English and political science
double major

Letter to the Editor

Let them have frat symbols

You may have noticed fraternities in the Harrisonburg community were required to take down any symbols identifying or promoting fraternities, specifically crests. This decision by the city of Harrisonburg is a bewildering display of aggression and hostility toward the Greek community.

Singling out fraternities is not new to Harrisonburg or JMU. For nearly 10 years fraternities have displayed their emblems without offending anyone in the community, promoting organizations dedicated to the college experience and community. There are countless service hours and financial contributions made that somehow get overlooked. Yet the bureaucracy of Harrisonburg deem the proud display of a fraternity crest to be worth threatening legal action.

May I ask why the city finds these crests so offensive? Most fraternity crests have symbols of academic achievement, religious identification and friendship. Are those messages not suitable for a college community? Perhaps all libraries, churches and other social venues should remove their signs as well?

What's most troubling is that a community that hosts a school named after the author of the Constitution seeks to freely and openly deny the rights provided by the foundation of American society. I've realized as an alumnus that this sort of behavior is all but expected by those who spitefully impose their will upon others.

Kyle Thomas

Class of 2011

DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymously submitted and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth. Submit Darts & Pats at breezejmu.org

An "I'll-be-there-for-you"

pat to my best friend who I've now been dating for a year this Tuesday.

From someone who recognizes "You're there for me too" (even though you can never nail the "Friends" clapping solo).

An "I'm-ready-for-my-close-up"

pat to JMU for finally giving me a makeover.

From the Quad tunnel.

A "thanks-for-the-Doritos"

pat to Ryan for brightening up my rainy Monday morning.

From a woman who really appreciated the random act of kindness.

A "learn-to-read"

dart to the hospitality majors who do all talking and no studying in the study lounge.

From a sport and recreation major who just wants to get his work done.

A "you-rock"

pat to Haley

Leopold and Angelica Babauta who helped me prepare for the 2013 GenEd student conference.

From a student who felt confident and well prepared.

A "what-a-wonderful-world"

pat to my roomies who spent the whole weekend with me.

From a senior who is so happy to be living with her best friends.

A "why-aren't-you-dating-me?"

dart to every boy at JMU.

From the hottest girl in the world with a great personality.

A "what-does-accountability-mean-to-you?"

dart to all of the companies that fail to notify candidates when they say they will.

From a senior who is tired of one-to-two weeks becoming one-to-two months.

A "way-to-spend-\$2,329,000"

dart to JMU for the recent purchase of four residential locations.

From a concerned staff member who wonders where all the money came from and if JMU will ever be satisfied.

A "stud-muffin" pat to the Route 9 bus driver for giving me something to look forward to every day.

From a woman who wishes you'd drive her off into the sunset.

A "why-am-I-a-freshman-again?"

dart to my senior year classes for making me want to go home every weekend and never do work.

From a struggling student who thought this was going to be the best year of college.

A "party-with-Jews"

pat to the men of the AEPi Fraternity for hosting RAVEPi this Friday to raise money for philanthropy.

From a student who can now prove that we do party for good reasons.

A "write-on"

pat to the University Writing Center.

From a student who definitely isn't the marketing intern.

A "why?"

dart to the guys who were driving a remote control truck with a camera on top down the Quad.

From two creeped out women who hope it was for an academic purpose and not your own pleasure.

A "calm-down" dart to all of the people who think the Redskins should change their name.

From a student who's tired of everyone tiptoeing around what they can say and thinks the name is fine.

A "that's-sacred-text" dart to the woman that was kicking around *The Breeze* in D-Hall.

From a student who was severely disappointed in your lack of respect for our school newspaper.

A "you-were-my-Lucky-Strike" pat to the woman who gave me a lighter so I could make it through my 10-hour school day.

From a woman who wouldn't made it without your generosity.

An "it's-finally-coat-season" pat to the cool weather.

From a senior who can never pull off short shorts or flip flops and enjoys the chance to look classy during the colder months.

A "why-so-far-away" dart to the RII lot.

From a student who can only ever find parking in a lot that's a three-day hike from campus.

Editorial Policies

The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns. Letters must be no longer than 250 words. Guest columns must be no more than 650 words.

The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. The Breeze assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of The Breeze or its staff.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable) and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.

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"To the press alone, chequered as it is with abuses, the world is indebted for all the triumphs which have been gained by reason and humanity over error and oppression."

— JAMES MADISON, 1800

DANIELLE RUBLE | contributing columnist

Excuses, excuses: Supreme Court neglects global warming

Despite Obama's attempts to pass laws that make a dent in climate change, judges refuse to pay attention

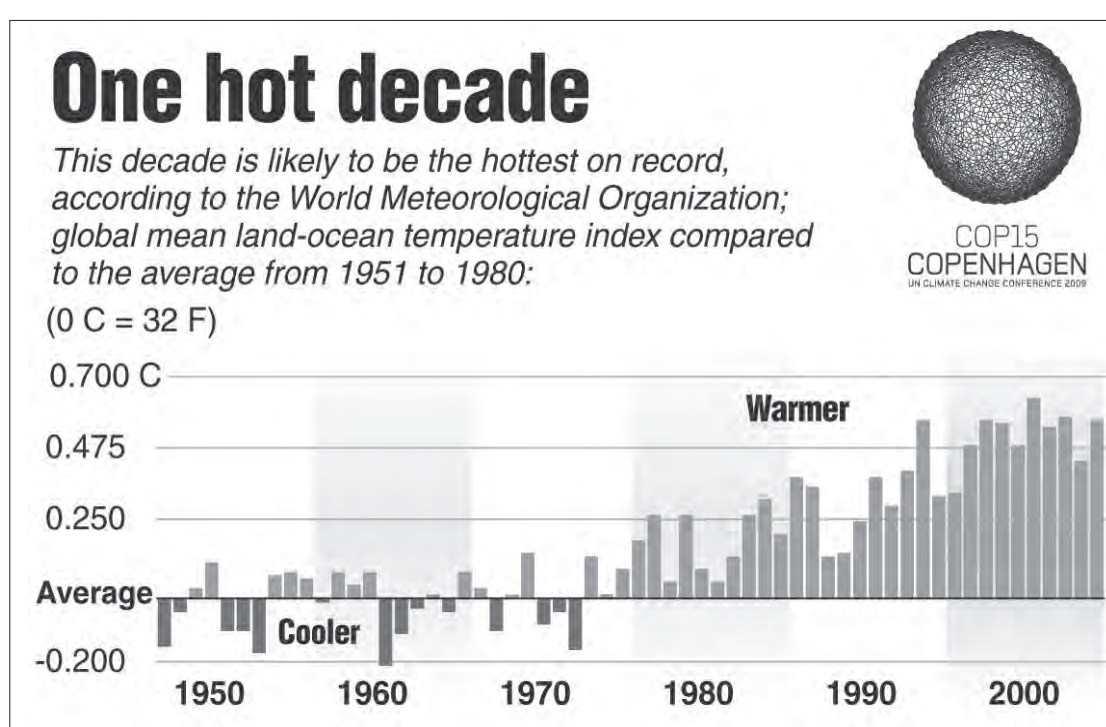
Imagine a world where the edges of the continents are engulfed by water where extreme weather conditions have become the norm. This world is more than just imagination. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, this could be the future of Earth if global warming remains unchecked.

Global warming is the product of greenhouse gases, mostly CO₂, that become trapped in the atmosphere. This leads to an increase in Earth's overall temperature that could have a lot of undesirable consequences.

In response to this imminent threat, Obama has announced a Climate Action Plan that includes a series of executive decisions aimed at improving the global warming situation, including new carbon pollution regulations for power plants and fuel economy standards for all 2014-2018 model trucks, buses and vans. Though this sounds like a good thing, some have filed petitions asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review these regulations and reject them.

"States, including Texas and Virginia, and industry groups like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce had filed petitions asking the justices to review the regulations, arguing they would pose an economic burden to implement, among other complaints," according to Reuters.

So far, the Supreme Court has not taken any action in showing that it will hear the case and that's not a very good sign for our future. I'm well aware that the Supreme Court has many important cases to hear, but our country needs to make climate change a top priority,



and the first step is proving that these laws are constitutional and needed.

It's easy to sweep climate change under the rug since (even though our summers may be getting a little warmer and our winters a little colder) the issue is not directly in our faces. But, unlike other more blatant problems in today's society, this problem is not going to go away anytime soon. It will only get much worse.

The Supreme Court should hear this case. It should review the regulations. Then it should rule in

favor of Obama's Climate Action Plan.

In addition, Congress should take a more aggressive position on drafting legislation to combat the climate change issues we are currently facing. There will always be some excuse to put it aside, but if we address it now it will show our country and the rest of the world that climate change is a serious and pressing matter.

No matter the economic burden these regulations may create, it's our responsibility to clean up the environmental burden we have placed on this

planet. We must start looking at the big picture if we plan on having our future generations call Earth home.

Even though the affects of global warming may peak generations from mine, I still feel the moral obligation to look out for my great-grandchildren and the people they love. I can only hope the Supreme Court will feel the same way.

Danielle Ruble is a sophomore media arts and design major. Contact Danielle at rubleldr@dukes.jmu.edu.

Letter to the Editor

Misleading the public on sports

It is, of course, important that the JMU community be open to discussions of controversial topics, and the question of whether JMU should move from the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) to the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) is no exception. However, it is also important not to be misleading during such discussions.

Unfortunately, *The Breeze* article, "Conference change for JMU?" and the FBS Athletics Feasibility Study prepared by CarrSports Consulting might have misled their audiences. The Feasibility Study includes the statement, "... athletics generated revenue accounting for between 25.2 percent and 27.3 percent of athletics expenses, up from 19 percent" and *The Breeze* article uses the phrase "a smaller percentage of the athletic program would be funded by student fees." While technically true, both statements could mislead readers.

According to the Feasibility Study, in 2019, university allocated revenues (student fees) will account for \$37,980,000 of athletics expenses if JMU remains in the FCS. On the other hand, if JMU moves to the FBS, student fees will account for between \$38,740,000 and \$39,560,000 of athletics expenses. That is, the amount of student fees allocated to athletics expenses will increase by between \$760,000 and \$1,580,000 (i.e., will increase between 2 percent and 4.16 percent) if JMU moves to the FBS.

While such an increase in the use of student fees for athletics might be warranted, it is important that the forecasts in the Feasibility Study not be misunderstood.

David Bernstein

Professor in the Department of Computer Science



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A new kind of family

Big Brothers Big Sisters and JMU team up to guide Harrisonburg and Rockingham County's youth



COURTESY OF DONOVAN SEOW

Allie Emerick, a JMU graduate student studying elementary education, and her little, Amaya, were matched more than three years ago. They have spent at least an hour each week together since.

By LAUREN YOUNG
contributing writer

Ever heard of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Harrisonburg-Rockingham County? More than 500 JMU students have: Last year 70 percent of the program's volunteers were JMU students, with 529 JMU big brothers and sisters being matched to littles in the community.

"We are absolutely thrilled with our ongoing partnership with James Madison University and its students," Sue Totty, executive director of BBBS in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, said. "This relationship is a critical factor in our ability to provide quality mentoring

services to so many children in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County."

Volunteers of BBBS are required to commit to one calendar year of service with their "littles." This means three semesters of commitment with the program for college students. The bigs and littles spend a minimum of one hour together each week. They either meet at a school site or somewhere within the community; this depends on which of the two programs the big and little have signed up for.

Allie Emerick and her little sister, 9-year-old Amaya, met in August 2010. They enjoy walking Emerick's

dog, playing in the park and doing homework together. Emerick is currently a graduate student but was matched with Amaya as an undergrad while pursuing her interdisciplinary liberal studies degree.

"I have been with my little sister for BBBS for over three years," Emerick said. "I love being around kids, so it started out as a way for me to get some 'kid time' and have a break from studying, etc., and turned into so much more. I know that even after I am no longer at JMU, I will still keep in touch with my little and visit when possible."

see **BIG**, page 10

Book review

DC: dirty city

'This Town' offers glimpse of D.C.'s elite

By ABIGAIL SHORT
contributing writer

"This Town," written by New York Times Magazine's chief national correspondent Mark Leibovich, is a revealing exposé into the inner-workings of Washington's gilded elite. Laugh-out-loud funny and often scathing, Leibovich explains how politicians and big-time journalists are affected by the critical eye of the 24-hour news cycle, a heavy wallet and a life spent in the limelight.



COURTESY OF BLUE RIDER PRESS

Leibovich sets the stage at the funeral of the late NBC journalist and "Meet the Press" host, Tim Russert. Russert was highly revered by nearly all of Washington's well-to-do and was considered to be one of America's premiere journalists — mostly because politicians "needed to be on 'Meet the Press' to be bestowed with a top-line standing in what [novelist and journalist] Joan Didion called 'that handful of insiders who invent, year in and year out, the narrative of public life.'"

Gone are the days of selfless public service, true democracy and untainted bipartisan compromise. Big money, big media and big egos characterize the current Washington. "This Town." However, Leibovich does not believe that "The Club," is filled with one-dimensional, bad people. "Their membership in The Club becomes paramount and defining. They become part of a system that rewards, more than anything, self-perception."

The author does not take to criticizing one party over another. Loudmouths from both sides of the aisle are inelegantly shoved into the spotlight and ripped apart. The Clintons are one of Leibovich's favorite victims, often quoting Bill's outlandish quips. The author jokes that bad things happen to "Clinton Crossers": Ted Kennedy, who endorsed Barack Obama over Hillary in the 2008 election, died from a brain tumor; John Edwards, who also endorsed Obama, was busted for cheating on his wife. "The state of Iowa, whose Democratic voters slapped a humiliating third-place finish on Hillary in January's caucuses, was devastated by biblical floods in the spring."

Leibovich also takes every opportunity to chastise Republicans like Tim Pawlenty for switching his position on different issues to appease voters. He also goes into a long autopsy of the Republican primaries, noting things like how Romney was "being reduced to a well-coiffed mound of Jell-O every time someone asked him why he wasn't releasing his tax returns" and ridiculing Newt Gingrich for declaring things like "I think I am a transformational figure," and "I am essentially a revolutionary."

By the end of the book, Leibovich has offered his contemptuous insight into the press-loving and narcissistic elites that make up "This Town," but isn't Leibovich one of them? Is this examination hypocritical? Leibovich has appeared on television many times to promote his book, he has wine and dined the finest and he resides, works and raises his daughters in the very town he distains. This begs the question of whether it is appropriate for Leibovich to be passing judgment. Is it possible for someone to write this intimately about the intricate gears that run the political machine without experiencing it directly? The answer is left up to the reader.

CONTACT Abigail Short at shortac@dukes.jmu.edu.

Resident role model

Senior has worked as RA for three years and hopes to inspire community bond

By ANNE HARDRICK
contributing writer

Ivan Ango is known among his residents as the best RA ever, which is a title of distinction for an often-dreaded authority figure.

Ango, a senior integrated science and technology major, has three years of experience as a resident adviser under his belt, and he approaches his job with a seriousness and intensity that makes a deep impression on everyone around him.

Ango has been an RA in Potomac Hall for the past three years. During his time there he has cultivated leadership skills and a reputation for creating a very positive atmosphere on his hall.

"At the end of the year [my residents] come to me and tell me that I was really awesome, and I feel like I earned my paycheck," Ango said. "4A is always the best hall."

The constructive environment he has fostered on his hall, as well as his dedication to his job, continues his great reputation with current residents, who say he is open and communicative.

"He doesn't go out of his way to get people in trouble," said Alex Crothers, a freshman marketing major and one of Ango's residents this year. "He comes in and checks on us."

According to Crothers, it is exactly this hands-on approach to the lives of his residents that makes the difficult transition from high school to college easier.

"I felt like I could go to him if I needed to, and he seemed like someone you could actually hang out with," Crothers said.

Ango is particularly passionate about helping his residents get involved on campus and find their niche, which can be one of the most challenging aspects of college life for freshmen.

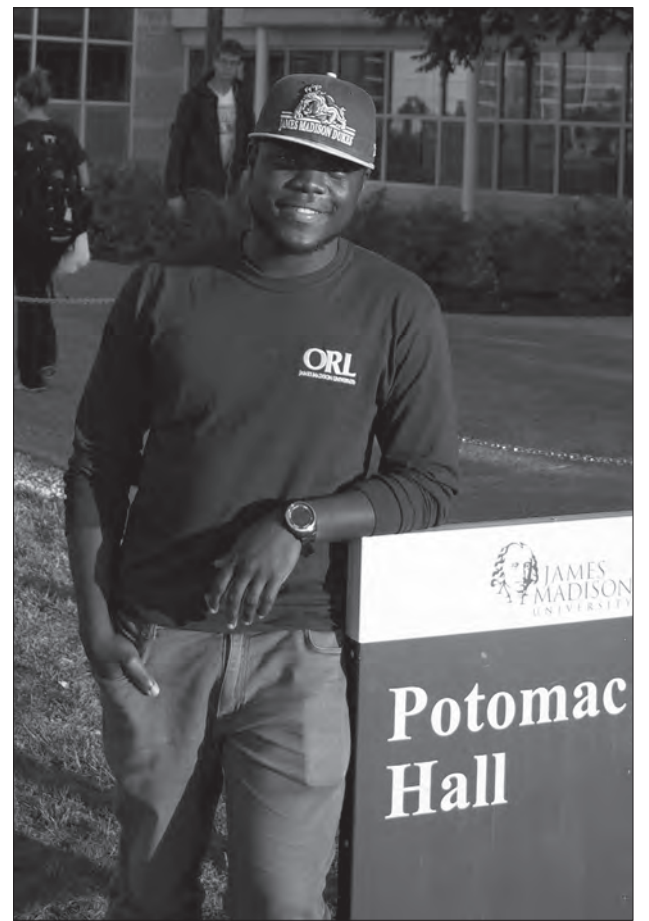
"One of the first things he did was take a list of activities people would want to do later in the semester," said Stephen Taylor, a freshman geographic science major and resident on Ango's hall.

The Office of Residence Life is a popular employer among students, taking a little more than 200 resident advisers a year out of more than 400 through a rigorous application and interview process. A major draw for many students is the paycheck that takes away a portion of college expenses. RAs are paid \$4,180 for their first year on staff, and pay increases with each year employment is retained. However, Ango cites other motivations for becoming involved with Residence Life.

"I lived in Eagle Hall, and I had the best experience in my freshman year," Ango said. "I wanted to have that same impact on first years. When you get to college you don't know what you're in for, so having a role model to look up to is a great thing."

Another dimension to Ango's unique perspective is his ethnicity. Hailing from Douala, Cameroon, Ango has only attended high school and college in the United States. He believes this gives him a different perspective from many other students because of his desire to educate his residents on different parts of the world. He pushes his residents to be open-minded about other cultures and he delights in sharing his native culture with them.

"It's a different experience where I'm from, and I like to give that to my residents," Ango said. He said that he was always



COREY CROWE / THE BREEZE

Ivan Ango stands in front of Potomac Hall where he has worked as a resident adviser for three years. Ango will graduate this spring.

taught to never talk back to an elder in a disrespectful way but when he got here, he saw many students in high school humiliating teachers. He tries to bring these same values from Cameroon into the JMU community. "They learn about my culture and become enlightened citizens, like the JMU mission statement."

Ango has done this through the multicultural programs that RAs are required to put on each year. One such program he conducted involved residents being labeled with a stereotype and then treating each other as the stereotype is treated in American culture. His objective was to encourage his residents to see things from an outsider's perspective and to emphasize the importance of treating each other with respect.

Ango intends to work for the U.S. Energy Department when he graduates, and he believes that his experience as an RA has changed him as a person and helped prepare him for any job he might have. As an RA, he says that he has been exposed to changing work environments, dealing with authority figures and occupying a leadership position.

Ultimately the most important part of the job for Ango is his ability to have a positive impact on the lives of fellow Dukes.

"The Office of Residence Life really gave me an opportunity to impact people's lives, and I'm grateful for it," Ango said. "If I could touch just one person's life, that would be enough."

CONTACT Anne Hardrick at hardriam@dukes.jmu.edu.

<p>10</p> <p><i>Forbes Center-Distant Voices @ 8 p.m. \$9</i></p> <p><i>Little Grill-Open Mic @ 8:30-11 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>The Artful Dodger-Salsa Night @ 9 p.m.-2 a.m.</i></p> <p><i>Clementine- DJ Neals Barkley @ 9:30 p.m.-12 a.m.</i></p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>Forbes Center-Defending the Caveman @ 8 p.m. \$30</i></p> <p><i>Clementine- Les Racquet @ 9-11:30 p.m. \$6</i></p> <p><i>The Blue Nile-'80s Night @ 10 p.m.-2 a.m.</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p><i>Forbes Center-Defending the Caveman @ 8 p.m. \$30</i></p> <p><i>Clementine-Jonathan Scales Fouchestra @ 9-11:30 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>The Blue Nile- DJ Fayo @ 10 p.m.</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Artful Dodger- Sunday Night Local @ 7-10 p.m.</i></p>
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Something missing? Send us your event at breezarts@gmail.com.

SWELL DAZE | 'It was probably the most intense show we ever played'



COURTESY OF SWELL DAZE

Swell Daze won first place at the Mid-Atlantic Battle of the Bands thanks to their distinctive harmonies and lead guitar work.

from front

And make it work they did. Mitchell Weissman, also a sophomore business management major, joined Swell Daze as its bassist in September 2012 and the band took off. After recording its self-titled debut EP the group began booking and playing shows, including a show in Taylor Down Under, until ending up at the Battle of the Bands this past summer.

"I don't think any of us had any hopes of winning this thing," Douglasson said. "We all thought it was a long shot."

But the band somehow managed to sweep the competition.

"We actually didn't even place in the first round; we were the wild card pick," Weissman said. "We had to go first out of 15 bands and somehow the judges remembered us."

Swell Daze's knowledge of pop motifs and progressive thinking produces an interesting sound that's heavily influenced by classic rock. This, coupled with the band's harmonies and lead guitar work, was enough to catch the judge's attention and bring them back into the competition.

The band went on to a first-place finish in the second and final rounds to win the competition. After this break they kicked it into gear and began putting on some intense shows.

"Some crazy things went down that show," Barton said. "I was playing pretty hard, giving it my all, and I broke my kick drum. I would kick it, and the pedal would get stuck in the bass drum because I had broken through it."

"It was probably the most intense show we ever played," Smith said.

As far as what's in store for Swell Daze, the band hopes to continue to progress and grow.

"We're really hoping this will open some more doors," Weissman said. "We'd love to get a spot here at Madipalooza."

They will also get a whole new look and a music video as part of the prizes for winning the competition.

If you missed the chance to see Swell Daze's winning performance, the band will be playing a free show in TDU on Saturday at 8 p.m.

CONTACT Lauren Hunt at huntle@dukes.jmu.edu

BIG | Local chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters is the largest in Virginia

from page 9

There's a wide array of activities the matches do together. In the community, popular activities include baking, going to the park, playing sports, riding bikes or volunteering together. In the school-based setting, matches usually have lunch together, go to recess, play games, work on homework or do arts and crafts.

"Allie is a great big sister," Amaya said. "We laugh a lot together. Allie is showing me how to be a teacher. She took me to her school when she was student teaching. I am happy that she is my big sister."

To be matched with a little, volunteers fill out a written application and include three positive references, participate in an in-person interview and orientation and get a background check. A community-based volunteer must also have driving records and insurance background checks.

"Each match in our program is unique," Cara Hopson, communications specialist for BBBSHR, said. "And is made with careful consideration of the interests and preferences of the big, the little and the little's parent or guardian. Matches between adults and children [are made] with compatible personalities."

Littles can be anywhere from 5 to 14 years old and are referred to the agency through an adult in their lives, or may even send in a request themselves. There is consent required from student and parent and an

agreement made that the child's experience will be positively supported throughout program.

"Allie has really brought out Amaya's personality," Alona, Amaya's mom, said. "She has given Amaya a chance to do things that she wouldn't have been able to do before. Since being matched, Amaya is more interested in getting involved with different activities ... Allie and Amaya have been matched for three years and it's been great to see them grow together."

Even though Harrisonburg's agency is the largest, Richmond's program runs on a larger budget of \$951,500. It serves 626 children. All agencies of Big Brothers Big Sisters encourage no cost or low cost activities though, so this budget does not affect the quality of activities bigs and littles engage in.

"Harrisonburg-Rockingham County is the largest Big Brothers Big Sisters agency in the state of Virginia regarding the number of children served," Hoson said. "In 2012, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Harrisonburg served 729 kids. Our budget was \$579,773."

The mission of BBBS is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported, one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better. With the help of JMU students, Big Brothers Big Sisters is changing more lives in Harrisonburg than anywhere else in Virginia.

CONTACT Lauren Young at young2le@dukes.jmu.edu.



COURTESY OF DONOVAN SEOW

Allie Emerick and her little, Amaya, walk Allie's dog at the park. The two have been matched for three years.

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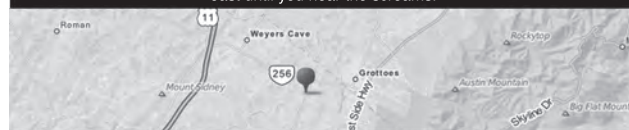
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STEPHEN PROFFITT

estimated proffitt

Under further review

Football isn't the issue in conference realignment talk

Get your chores done before you go out and play. It's what your mom always told you and it's what you always hated to hear. JMU needs to wait, and it's doing a good job of it, but is the focus where it should be?

On Friday afternoon, the long-awaited, 54-page, \$79,000 CarrSports report was released to the public following the Board of Visitors meeting.

The report revealed that the school is in position to make the leap into the Football Bowl Subdivision, but it



alluded that the school could be far from it, and you need to be OK with that.

JMU has a lot of thinking to do and I applaud them for not making any quick decisions. With no official offers on the table, can JMU even make a move at this point?

What about the George Masons and VCU's, you may ask? It's not comparable. Both of those moves (to the Atlantic-10 from the CAA) were basketball moves. It's the main reason they strive athletically. And even those decisions affected smaller teams within the school. JMU has too much to lose on a quick decision. This is a more rounded school athletically. Football fits, in largely with this idea.

For as long as I can remember JMU athletics has been centered on football. Anyone who knows anything about JMU sports remembers the triumphant run to the national title in 2004. That was nine years ago people. I know it seems like yesterday, but in reality the time keeps ticking into the future and that hardware keeps aging. How about the 21-16 win over Virginia Tech that seemingly funded the construction of the new Bridgeforth Stadium? Well, that was more than three years ago. The new Bridgeforth was a reward for success and showed that the school meant business. The stadium has done well in its first two years, but there is much room for improvement.

But now, we're at the age-old philosophy — what have you done for me lately, Mickey? Some say Matthews is on the hot seat this year. At 4-2, the team doesn't have much more ground to slip if they look to make the FCS playoffs.

JMU will lose another game this season; maybe two, and they will miss the playoffs. The excuse of having a national title is out the door. Let's live in the now. The tides have turned and the focus needs to be reallocated — to the hardwood that is.

Last year some were blindsided by the explosion of a basketball program whose campus presence was minimal at the time. I'm all about progression, and basketball equals progression in the NCAA.

According to Nike, as of March 11, 2013, Harrisonburg was officially "on the map" because of JMU's automatic bid into the NCAA tournament via a Colonial Athletic Association tournament sweep of William & Mary, Delaware and Northeastern.

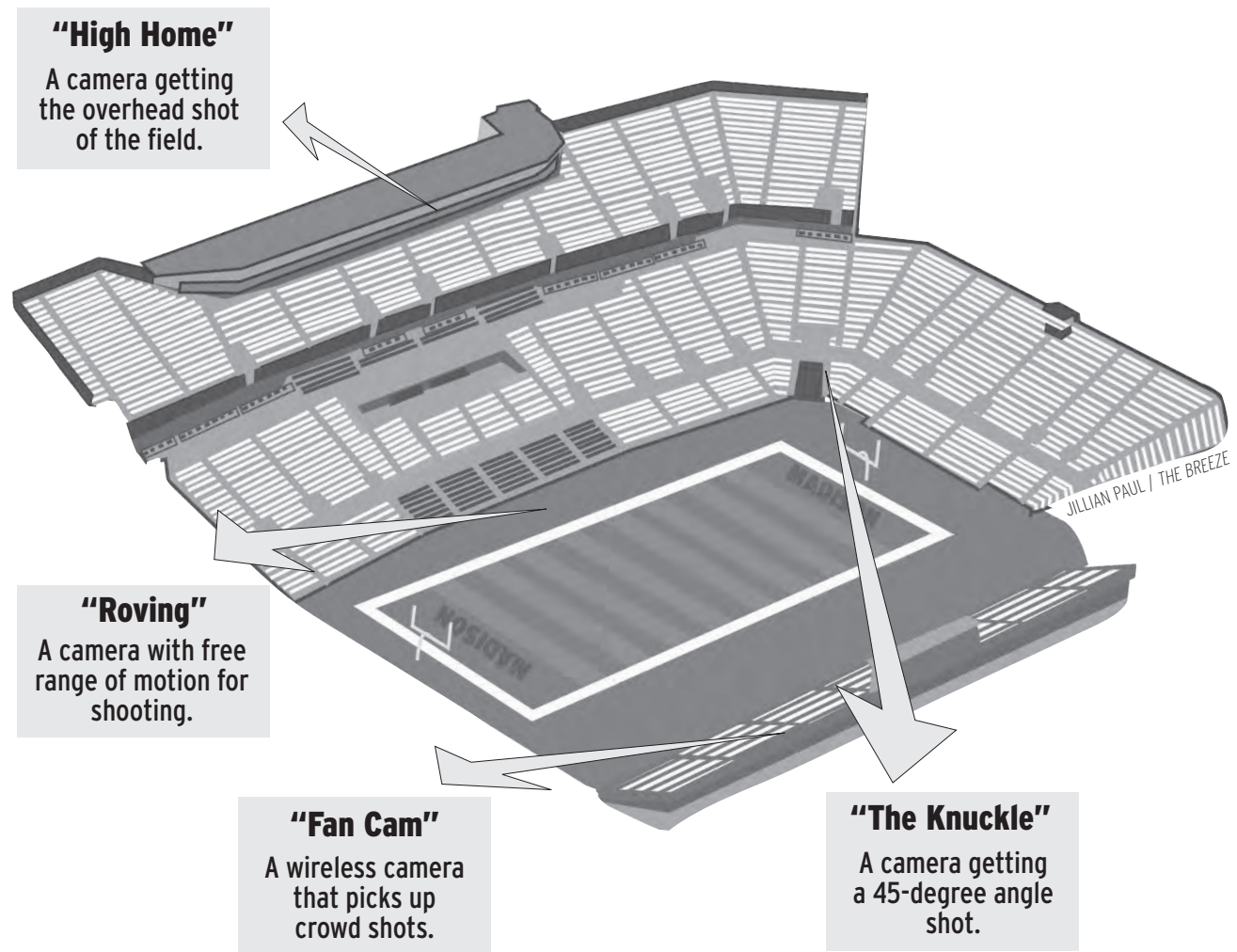
Last time I checked, this town was not put on the map with a FCS playoff trip to Fargo, N.D., back in 2011. The school received national recognition for the upset in Blacksburg a couple of years ago, but that came and went with the wind.

In case you thought differently, a trip to the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl as an FBS program wouldn't scratch the map either. There are too

see **CARR**, page 12

Preparing for the big time

JMU football media ready for first nationally televised game of the season



Telemedia, the company that runs most of the in-house camera operations for Bridgeforth, produces a six-angle broadcast for MadiZONE each home game. The angles above are demonstrations of camera angles for MadiZONE broadcasts and JMU video board feeds. NBC will use similar angles this weekend in its national broadcast.

BRIDGEFORTH SERIES: Part two

By HAYLEY THOMPSON
The Breeze

More seating may have been the name of the game for Bridgeforth Stadium after its expansion in 2011, but with a possible Football Bowl Subdivision move around the corner, its impressive multimedia setup is getting its time to shine.

This weekend, four simultaneous broadcasts will be running out of the press box: the MadiZONE radio and video feeds, NBC Sports Network and the JMU video board feed. NBC Sports, who has exclusive rights for Saturday's game, is putting JMU onto a national platform for the first time this season, making this the biggest game since men's basketball NCAA tournament run.

With the combination of a national audience and a big Virginia rivalry — University of Richmond — the football media team has its work cut out for them.

But John Martin, the assistant athletic director for communications and football sports information director, and his team of

assistants, practicum students and interns are used to producing a top notch product to the media that come to Bridgeforth to cover the Dukes. This weekend will be no exception.

"Once you're dealing with the TV crew on site, that becomes the easy part of it," Martin said. "It's all the lead up to that."

The planning for the NBC national broadcast this weekend began at CAA Football Media Day back in July. Discussions between Martin and some of the NBC producers about the game, brainstorming ideas for packages about the team in Baltimore that day and the ball hasn't stopped rolling since.

The NBC crews will unfurl their masses of cables and lights onto campus at 9 a.m. tomorrow, and from then on, it's all preparation for the big show Saturday afternoon. Meetings and initial interviews among NBC, Matthews and players will begin early Friday afternoon to start feeling out side stories for programming during breaks. Michael Birdsong, Dae'Quan Scott and Stephon Robertson — "The Big Three," as Martin called them — will be key players for NBC to focus on, because of their importance and prominence with the team. But the real purpose of the interviews is to show the national audience the people behind the facemasks.

"In the past we gave a story for the playoff game about Earl Watford, who is now with

the Cardinals, because when we went to the first playoff game he had a penguin Pillow Pet on his head," Martin said. "They were looking for personality and that's about as 'personality' as you get — a man that large with a penguin Pillow Pet he travels with — it had a name, too."

These kind of packages and storylines begin developing long before interviews on Friday, mainly because the national crews aren't able to get to Harrisonburg with enough time ahead to film it all themselves.

"Between the [Colonial Athletic Association] and our archives, we've sent them headshots, still shots for the slideshow they like to do," Martin said. "We're just trying to work with them and give them interesting side stories. One we'll feed to them is about Dae'Quan: What's it like to have your cousin block for you on the offensive line?"

While the preparation for TV programming has remained much the same over the years, the Bridgeforth expansion a few years ago made a big impact on JMU's ability to host TV games.

"They have the ability to run a lot of their cabling into a breakout box [instead of running cable upstairs]," Martin said. "So their display monitors, communication system, play-by-play mics, things like that is

see **MEDIA**, page 12

FOOTBALL (4-2)

Dukes stepping up

Younger players continue to make impact as JMU treks through conference play



Quarterback Michael Birdsong hands the ball off to freshman running back Khalid Abdullah. Abdullah rushed for 87 yards last Saturday.

By CONNOR DREW
The Breeze

In order to accomplish great things, there can never be just one person doing the job. There must always be two: a master and an apprentice.

Although this sounds like a quote from "Star Wars," the same principle applies to football, and JMU is proving that. The football team has been most impressive this season when the younger talent has played more like experienced talent and made an impact on the field.

JMU (4-2, 1-1 CAA) is coming off of a 40-13 win against the University at Albany (1-5, 0-2 CAA) this past Saturday. The Dukes had some underclassmen continue to elevate their level of play, including freshman linebacker Gage Steele, who was named The Sports Network's National Freshman of the Week.

"I needed to learn a lot and get used to the players that I'd be around," Steele said about his progress each week. "[The award] is nice but ... it hasn't gotten us a championship or anything like that. It's nice for the time but I just keep on focusing and keeping my head on straight so I can keep on getting better."

Outside of Steele, freshman running back Khalid Abdullah had his best showing to date in his third career game, scoring a touchdown and running for 87 yards. Abdullah has moved into the No.

2 spot behind redshirt senior Dae'Quan Scott.

Redshirt junior wide receiver Daniel Brown had a record setting performance against Albany, tying the JMU single-game record for receiving touchdowns with three. He continues to develop his connection with sophomore quarterback Michael Birdsong after missing most of last season due to a torn ACL.

"[Brown] is probably one of the best wide receivers I've ever played with," Birdsong said. "He's big, he's fast, he's physical and he knows how to get off routes. Another good thing is that the other receivers are so good on the field that [defenses] can't double team him ... it's fortunate for him to be that good and fortunate for everyone else to be that good, too."

With the emergence of such great talent this season on both sides of the ball, head coach Mickey Matthews is appreciative of how much the seniors on the team have taken their younger teammates under their wing and helped them get better.

"I think our senior leadership has been excellent this year. We really stress that it's a player-driven team," Matthews said. "We coach them and, certainly, we direct them. But I think our seniors are doing a terrific job ... of welcoming all of the young guys into the program. It's a very positive thing."

see **DUKES**, page 12

LAUREN GORDON / THE BREEZE

CARR | Basketball is the key sport for JMU to improve entire athletic program

from page 11

many bowl games to bring the amount of individual attention to a school as the NCAA tournament does for basketball.

To prevent contradiction, I like FCS football. I even like FBS football, despite its need for revision.

Regardless, basketball is on the up and up and we need to realize that.

A basketball program can help an athletics department bloom quicker than an FCS football program or even a new FBS one at that. Exhibit A: VCU's 2011 Final Four run. The team made it as an at-large bid (controversially) and coined the phrase "First Four to Final Four." The program now consistently receives national attention from the industry's top journalists and news outlets. On top of that, it's a top contender in a competitive A-10 conference.

Let's say JMU joined Conference USA, the Mid-American Conference or even the Sun Belt Conference. The growing pains for the football team's transition would be much greater than basketball's. Basketball has the opportunity to dominate the CAA and theoretically compete in a large-market conference.

In my mind it would take four to five years for football to completely integrate the same way basketball would. Even if they were to somehow make a low-tiered bowl game that would come from one of these conferences, the recognition is not there. Until a complete playoff system (not just four teams) is implemented, bowl games will remain a trinket in the season.

Ultimately, the road to success should run through a basketball program for a school like JMU. If you play your cards right, you can get to the top quickly (see last season). The Carr report mentioned finalizing plans for a new Convocation Center. It's time to reward basketball for its success. Pull the trigger. You can't jump to an FBS conference with 7,612 mustard-colored seats that have gone stale.

In order to make a jump, everything needs to be in place for sustained success. We can refer to it as housekeeping. JMU has a lot of chores to finish before they can go outside and play.

The school is fine where they are right now. Boldly, Bridgeforth needs another FCS national championship before the school considers a move. The growing pains of FBS outweigh any negativity of remaining in FCS. It's not like the Dukes have mastered FCS football on level 10. You can't reach a ceiling until you've mastered something.

There's a 25,000-seat football stadium on this campus. Most weekends, there aren't more than 15,000 left after halftime. That's not FBS material. To me, playing with the "big boys" will not keep butts in seats. Constant playoff runs will. Another national title will.

Ask someone how hard it was to get a student ticket eight years ago. People would stay up late and jump on tickets right as they were released, not reserve one from their iPhone three beers deep in the baseball lot 30 minutes prior to kickoff.

Keep calm and grab a hard hat, we got work to do.

Stephen Proffitt is a junior media arts & design major. Contact Stephen at proffittsj@gmail.com.

MEDIA | Top notch facility

from page 11

all easier set up that way."

While this weekend's crew will be coming in a day ahead of time, Bridgeforth now has the infrastructure to allow for a crew to come in the morning of the game, set up in a few short hours, take a lunch break, run the game and be gone three hours later. The quick in-and-out process for these crews makes Bridgeforth a much easier stadium to broadcast from than it was before the expansion.

The visiting crew also has their own broadcast room. While it is used for the in-house stats team on normal game days, the new press box is actually large enough to accommodate everyone displaced from the TV crew in the main press area without making anyone uncomfortable. The broadcast booth that NBC will be using is equipped to film commentators from inside the box, with the ability to run lights and hang their own backdrop behind the commentators' seats. If the network is interested in doing reporter stand-ups, there is direct access onto the camera deck, which has a view straight across I-81 over to ISAT.

"Ninety percent of the people that see that view from the camera deck take a picture of it. They're blown away by it," Martin said. "They want to find a way to use it... It's a great selling point for the area, too."

Despite MadiZONE being blacked out domestically this weekend, the Internet broadcast will still go on just as always for

those wishing to watch internationally.

Telemedia, a local production company that covers sports in the Shenandoah Valley, runs at least four cameras each game, and produces a six camera angle show for MadiZONE by utilizing some of the cameras operated by JMVU. Jake Tomko, multimedia producer for Telemedia, has been working with MadiZONE and the visiting TV crews since his sophomore year at JMU before the Bridgeforth expansion.

"It's a lot of us sharing space," Tomko said. "Fortunately there's enough space that they can set up comfortably and we can still fit in."

The ability to hold two crews is a big change from the old press box, which Martin described as being "a can of sardines" on television days. The infrastructure put in specifically for television crews sets both the in-house and visiting camera crews up to put on a quality product with ease.

"We're really not stepping on each others' toes too much," Tomko said. "It's just a couple more bodies and a couple more tripods."

Preparation is the name for Martin's team on a daily basis, but when it comes to national TV games like this Saturday, having a top-notch facility is really what makes the difference.

"It's not the same stadium by any stretch," Martin said. "And not a single person has had anything bad to say about it."

CONTACT Hayley Thompson at breezesports@gmail.com.

DUKES | Richmond this week

from page 11

Saturday, JMU will welcome conference rival University of Richmond (2-3, 0-1 CAA) to Bridgeforth Stadium for a 3:30 p.m. game. The Spiders will be fresh and rested coming off a bye week after they lost to the University of Maine 28-21 the week before. In that game, Richmond quarterback Michael Strauss, a 2012 transfer from the University of Virginia, threw the ball 45 times while racking up 333 yards and two touchdowns but also threw three interceptions.

If Richmond brings the same game plan to Harrisonburg on Saturday, and all indications are that it will, this game will be a huge test for JMU's defense, whose secondary has been improving week to week but is still prone to giving up big plays.

"[Strauss] is a really good player," Matthews said. "I have a lot of respect for him. Our pass defense will be tested in all areas and not just in our secondary, but how good our rush is, how good we play man-to-man and how good we play zone."

Saturday's game, which will be Breast Cancer Awareness Day at Bridgeforth, is the last game before the Dukes' own bye week. After Richmond, the Dukes have five games remaining, all against conference opponents, with three of those opponents also ranked in the FCS Coaches Poll, where JMU currently sits at 19.

CONTACT Connor Drew at drewcj@dukes.jmu.edu.

The Breeze PICKS of the WEEK



Wayne Epps Jr. sports editor 16-20



Hayley Thompson sports editor 18-18



Bradford Ambrose video editor 20-16



Dylan Garner copy editor 22-14



Sean Cassidy editor-in-chief 20-16



Anne Elsea managing editor 20-16

Richmond @ JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU	JMU
U.Va. @ Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	U.Va.	Maryland	U.Va.
Florida @ LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Cowboys @ Redskins	Redskins	Redskins	Redskins	Cowboys	Redskins	Cowboys
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+
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University Park

jmu.edu/recreation/adventure/team

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Wed. -Th. : 5 pm - 1 am	- Ladies Night / JMU Night - Free Bullrides for JMU students - Specials from 7-8 - Live DJ all night	Live bands on Friday-Saturday
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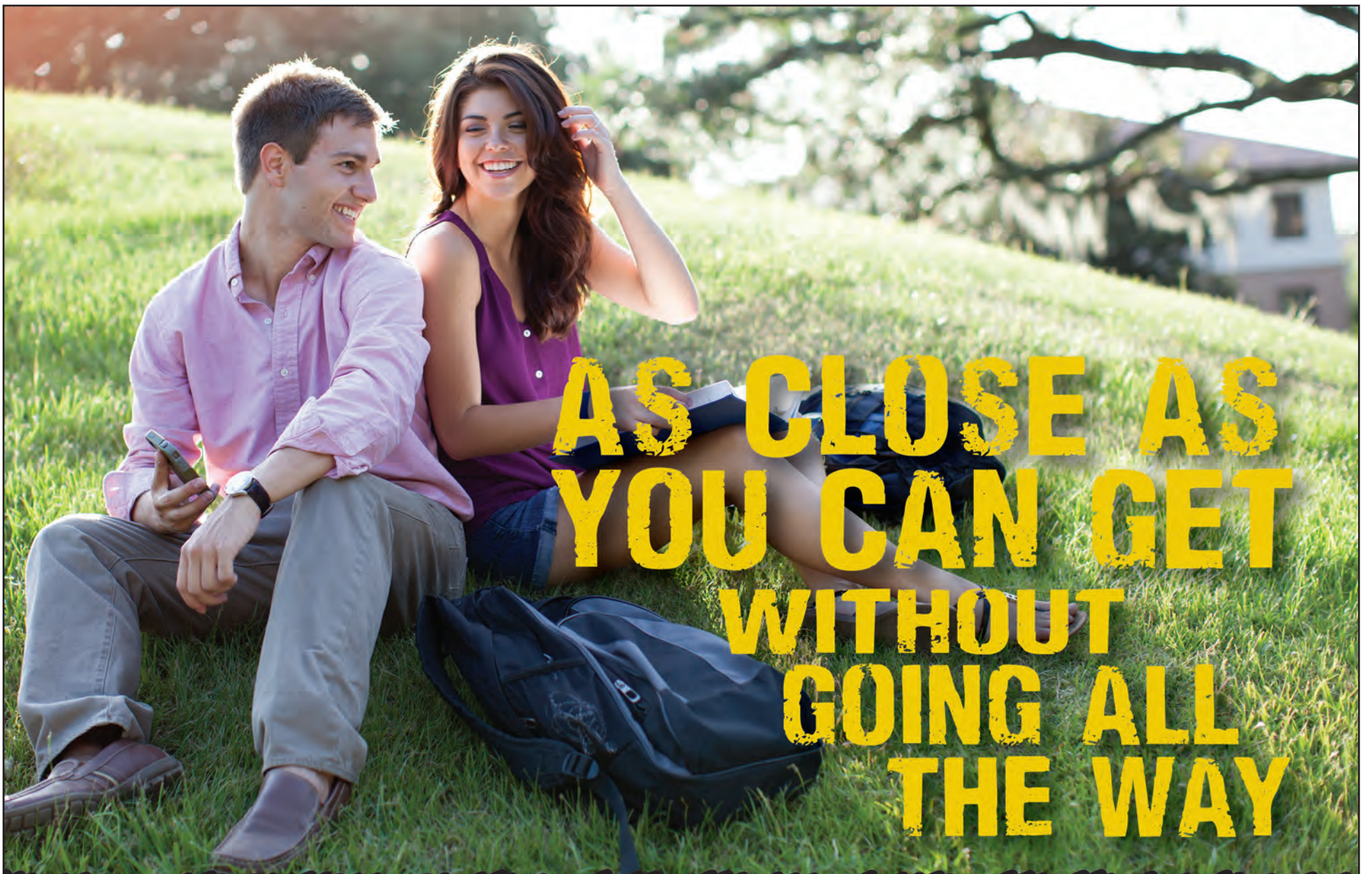
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