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State legislature's budget delay holds up Harrisonburg public schools

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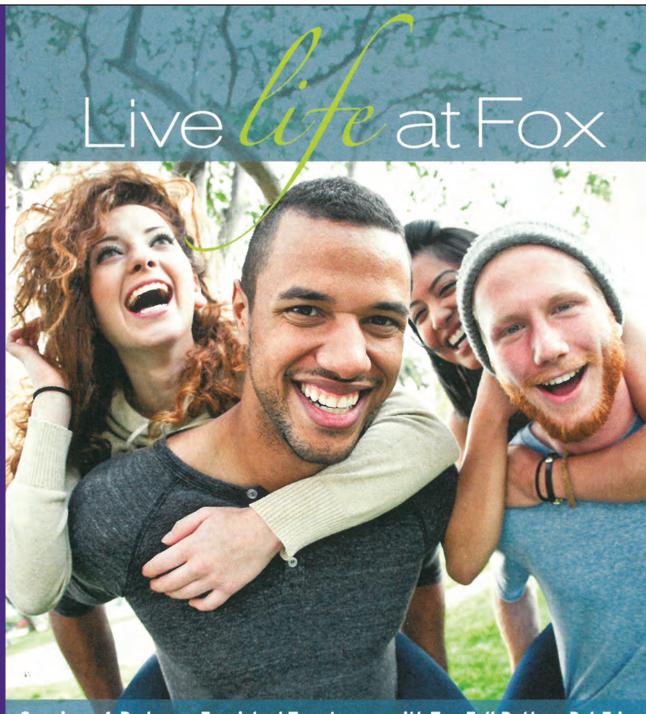
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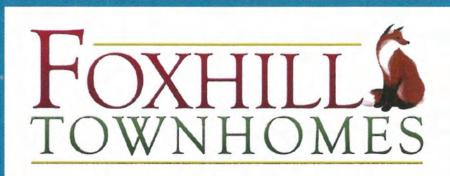
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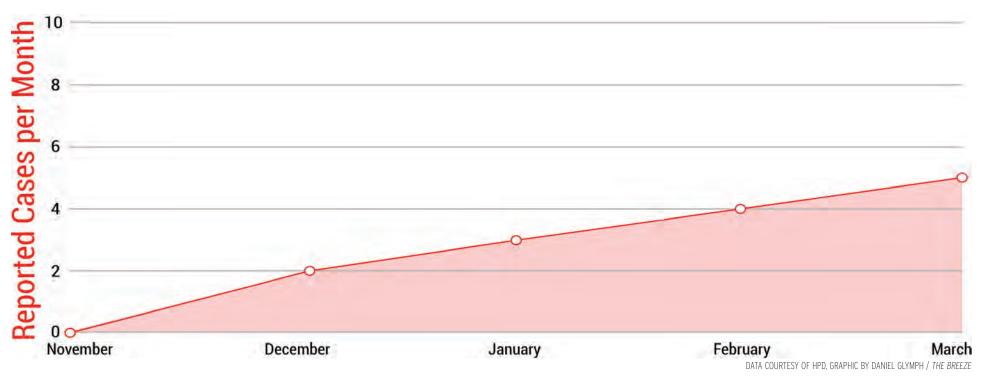
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# Scam scare

Harrisonburg experiences spike in credit card theft and fraud



### **By MADISSON HAYNES** The Breeze

2017 marked a record high for data and information breaches across the United States. Out of 1,579 breaches, banking, credit and financial hacking occurred 134 times, or 8.5 percent of the total breaches, according to the Identity Theft Resource Center.

Credit card fraud and identity theft have been prevalent in Harrisonburg. Randall Life is a detective in the Major Crimes Unit of the Harrisonburg Police Department as well as a digital evidence examiner. He's seen numerous cases of credit card fraud in the area.

"It is prevalent everywhere, not just in the Valley," Life said. "It is a national problem as far as I can see. It is rampant."

Gas stations, ATMs and other payment mechanisms are being targeted by thieves. Skimmers are being placed inside credit card readers, allowing for credit card and routing information to be streamed into the thief's computer via Bluetooth. EMV chip cards have reduced information theft because of how the information is embedded in the microprocessor chip, but it isn't completely protected.

According to CreditCards.com, The Payments Forum report predicts the implementation of EMV chips will lead to an increase of "card not present" fraud — including online or overthe-phone transactions — in the U.S. from \$3.1 billion in 2015 to \$6.4 billion in 2018. Much of credit card theft occurs from CNP fraud, as the U.S. leads the world in percentages of e-commerce sales, reaching 77 percent.

Because of the implementation of EMV chips, new devices called shimmers have been created and are being placed into credit card readers, which allow thieves to access information from the chip cards — something skimmers aren't able to do. According to Life, HPD works to stop the initial theft from happening, but that isn't

always possible. "The places that are being victimized are the actual businesses, and a lot of times, it's after hours," Life said. "It's hard for our guys to notice anything out of the ordinary because

these guys are so

good at doing it **ATMs and gas stations are targets for credit card thieves.** quickly, and it looks like they are just getting gas in the middle of the night." to the theft of his bank infor was in Harrisonburg. Now, h

On March 26, an ATM at the CVS on Martin Luther King Jr. Way was used in a credit card scam. The two men arrested were found to have \$35,000, multiple pieces of stolen credit card information located on electronic devices as well as counterfeit credit cards in their possession. Other incidents have been reported in the area, including at gas station pumps.

Gianluca Grignoli, a junior political science and economics double major, recently had his bank account information stolen in the area. He tried to use his card and it instantly was declined.

"I went on an alternative weekend break and I went to use my card and it got declined and I wasn't sure why," Grignoli said. "I didn't have my card all weekend, and then when I got back I called and they said there was a fraudulent charge from Ohio and so they just froze the card automatically until I called them, then they

canceled it."

Grignoli didn't lose any money d u r i ng th e process because the bank caught the fraudulent transaction before the money was withdrawn from his account. While he isn't sure what

**gets for credit card thieves.** exact location led to the theft of his bank information, he knows it was in Harrisonburg. Now, he says he'll maintain caution when making purchases at convenient stores or gas stations.

According to Aimme Knight, the branch manager at Blue Ridge Bank, paying for gas inside the station may eliminate the risk of card information from being stolen. However, if that isn't an option, there are other precautions customers can take.

"Make sure the gas terminal doesn't show signs of tampering, wiggle the card reader, see if it's loose," Knight said in an email. "If it seems

suspicious don't use it and notify the clerk." This year alone, there have been 26 credit card and financial breaches in the U.S., totaling 10.4 percent of fraud thus far according to ITFC. According to Life, it's impossible to monitor all ATMs and cash registers in the area, but one way to keep personal information safe is by closely monitoring online banking accounts.

"I would recommend checking your bank account at least every third day, two or three days, just to keep an eye on transactions you haven't made because the quicker you catch it, the less you're going to be a victim," Life said.

HPD is working to prevent future theft in the area. Life asks that anyone at risk of credit card fraud be active in reporting any suspicious activity or incidents at credit card readers. In turn, HPD is focusing on informing the public of any possible threats.

"The best we can do is letting the public know when we do find skimmers, when we do make arrests," Life said. "Letting them know if you've gone to this gas pump or you've gone to this ATM or you've gone to this register, let us know and we can work with you to cancel your credit cards, to call your credit card company, that kind of thing in order to make sure that your accounts are locked down before you become a victim."

**CONTACT** Madisson Haynes at hayneslx@ dukes.jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.

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Thursday, April 5, 2018

# A unanimous vote

*JMU alumnus Kirk Cox is 55th speaker of House of Delegates* 

### By KATELYN WALTEMYER The Breeze

The Breeze

Kirk Cox graduated from JMU in December 1979 with a degree in political science and general social science. His passion for the U.S. political system was eventually taken beyond the classroom and into the House of Delegates.

After Cox graduated from JMU, he began teaching at Peabody Middle School in Petersburg, Virginia. According to Cox, he decided to become more hands-on with politics in 1985 so he could bring personal experience to the classroom.

To make this transition, Cox volunteered to drive Wyatt Durrette, the Republican candidate for Virginia governor at the time. He later became Durrette's full-time driver and took a year off from teaching.

Cox had the opportunity of meeting members from former President Reagan's cabinet, such as Jack Kemp — meeting these influential people inspired Cox to pursue a career as a politician.

"President Reagan did an event for us, Vice President Bush did an event for us," Cox said. "It gave me a lot of good firsthand experience with government, so that was great for teaching. It actually gave me the buzz to run for the House of Delegates."

While the job wasn't directly related to politics, it still provided Cox with beneficial experience that sparked his interest in pursuing a career in that realm. After Durrette lost the election to Gerald Baliles, Cox went back to teaching. He decided to run for the House of Delegates in 1989 and served his first term in the legislature in 1990.

Since then, Cox has been an active member of the House of Delegates. On Jan. 10, Cox was elected the 55th speaker of the House of Delegates. The vote was unanimous, 98-0.

"That felt great because as you know, we went from 66 Republicans and 44 Democrats and now we're all the way down to 51 Republicans and 49 Democrats — it's very close," Cox said. "I had a Democrat who's a good friend second my nomination."

Cox is known for his handiness with numbers and graceful cooperation with others. As a legislator, Cox regularly worked with Linwood Rose, president emeritus of JMU, at the onset of his political career.

While Rose didn't know Cox as a student, they began working together in the early '90s. The two met periodically to discuss analytics within the university. According to Rose, Cox payed crucial attention when it came to the analytics of the JMU budget.

"I would often visit with him both during the General Assembly session and at other times of the year to make sure he understood the needs of the university in terms of financing and funding," Rose said. "Being a graduate of JMU, he obviously had a greater interest and connection than a typical legislator might have."

While Cox has accomplished many things

in the House of Delegates, one of his more well-known contributions was when he served as the vice chair of commission for the Top Jobs Act. This legislation aimed to increase graduation rates within STEM-related fields.

"He worked closely with us and all of our education [departments] to provide additional funds for us to be able to grow our nursing program, our health sciences program, our engineering

program here at JMU," Charles King Jr., JMU's senior vice president, said.

One of his most recent pieces of legislation was finalized in 2017. It restructured Virginia's financial aid program — focusing on middleincome families — and rewards students for successful progression through an academic program.

Between attending JMU, serving the university as a legislator and having a son enrolled, Cox still remains connected. According to King, Cox offers a new perspective to others in the workplace.

"He has a great way of looking at the big picture for higher education ... and ensuring that we can offer this quality education that he experienced at JMU," King said.

According to Rose, Cox is deserving of his new



COURTESY OF PARKER SLAYBAUGH Kirk Cox was selected as the 55th speaker on Jan. 10 with a 98-0 vote.

> role as the 55th speaker of the House of Delegates because of his strong work ethic. Cox encourages graceful communication and effective work habits with those in the General Assembly.

> "He's analytical, he's very fair, he's conservative — financially conservative," Rose said. "He is concerned about making sure that the tax payers' dollars are used wisely and so accountability is important to him. I think all of these qualities combined have served to make him a pretty effective legislator."

> **CONTACT** Katelyn Waltemyer at breezenews® gmail.com. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.

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### DANIEL GLYMPH / THE BREEZE

### By CHRISTY FREITAG The Breeze

In March, Virginia's legislature failed to pass a state budget, causing Governor Ralph Northam to call for a special session on April 11. As legislators continue to negotiate a budget plan for the next fiscal year, the work of some braches of the Harrisonburg government, like the public school system, depend on state dollars that may be delayed by the budget holdup.

"The concern is your local governments are counting on a portion of money," Tony Wilt, Virginia delegate for the 26th District, said. "Part of that money comes from the state so the longer we push our processes out, the longer they have to wait, the longer they're in the dark on exactly what they'll be able to do."

Wilt has been serving the Harrisonburg-Rockingham community on the House of Delegates since 2010. He said the main reason for this year's delay is the issue of expanding Medicaid – the House of Delegates favored it with a 20-2 vote while the Senate opposed it unanimously. However, Wilt was one of the delegates who opposed Medicaid expansion. According to Wilt, Medicaid spending currently makes up 22 percent of Virginia's budget and in his opinion, expanding it would make it difficult to keep the state's budget balanced.

"There's not a state that's expanded medicaid that been able to balance their budget," Wilt said.

Also being decided is a privacy bill Wilt proposed called House Bill I, which passed both the House and Senate and is awaiting Governor Northam's action to either sign, amend or veto. Under The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law that protects the privacy of students' educational records, universities can still release students' directory information — if passed, Wilt's bill will eliminate this.

"This bill shields emails and phone numbers from the Freedom of Information Act, so JMU can no longer release information without student permission," Bill Wyatt, university spokesperson, said.

While the governor and legislators decide on its budget and various bills, the Harrisonburg public school system can only anticipate its spending for the next fiscal year. Harrisonburg Superintendent Scott Kizner presented a budget for the schools on March 6 that'll be presented to Harrisonburg City Council on April 10. With close to 51 percent of the school's budget funded by the state, the school system is dependent on the outcome of the undecided

**Common cents** 

Delay in state budget decision to affect

Harrisonburg public school system

state budget. "We're heavily dependent on the state budget," Kizner said. "Our budget request has approximately \$2.8 million more from the state. The uncertainty is never something we look forward to."

The delay in the state budget may affect the efficiency of hiring at schools. Within the schools' budget, they are planning on adding at least 25 new positions.

Within Harrisonburg local government, its public schools are some of most reliant on state dollars. In addition to funding from the state, around 43 percent of Harrisonburg schools' budget comes from the city and approximately four or five percent from the federal government, according to Kizner. Harrisonburg schools expect to receive more funding from the state than two years ago based on its average daily membership – the amount of students enrolled in Harrisonburg public schools.

"We're very fortunate here in the city of Harrisonburg because we have continued to see increased state aid over the last several years," Tracy Shaver, executive director of finance for Harrisonburg City Schools said. "Much of that's tied to our enrollment growth. We've been the fastest growing school division in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the last ten years. State aid is tied directly with student enrollment and that's a good problem to have as well as a challenge."

While Governor Northam plans for a budget deal by April 11, Delegate Wilt is doubtful. In Virginia, the state has until June 30 to pass a budget.

"My gut feeling is that it's going to be later because ... I'm not hearing much at all about they're reaching a deal," Wilt said.

**CONTACT** Chrisy Freitag at freitacd@dukes. jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.

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The structure was originally built to house Harrisonburg High School in 1928. After over 75 years of operating as HHS, the building was repurposed so that JMU's College of Education could work under one roof.

### **By KATELYN WALTEMYER** The Breeze

1928 marked a wide range of milestones for the U.S. The Roaring '20s were coming to an end, Calvin Coolidge was president and John W. Morrison was the mayor of Harrisonburg. While all this occured, in Harrisonburg, a new local high school had opened and would stand for years to come. In 1928, Harrisonburg High School moved from South Main Street to South High Street. The building is now known as Memorial Hall, home of the JMU College of Education.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of Memorial Hall. Ninety years after its original opening, the building is still a home for education in the Harrisonburg community.

When the high school went up for sale, JMU's education program was spread throughout main campus. The dean was located in Maury Hall, while most of the professors taught in Roop Hall. The purchase of the old high school gave the university an opportunity to operate under one single roof.

"It has been an adventure to see the way

that the old high school was, because I have relatives that went through Harrisonburg High School," Larry Huffman, part-time professor in the College of Education, said. "I've been able to listen to them talk about the high school then vs. now. They would come in the building and show me where they had French class."

According to Phillip Wishon, the dean of the College of Education, when the university announced its purchase of Memorial Hall, many were unsure of its future residents. However, Wishon had a vision for how to use the building.

"I personally felt that the College of Education would be a perfect fit since it was a high school for many, many years," Wishon said. "We are preparing teachers and future educators."

Wishon remained optimistic with the hopes to change the perspectives of colleges. According to Huffman, much of the faculty disliked the idea of being placed in an isolated setting away from main campus.

"Initially, there was a feeling that we're sort of a stepsister," Huffman said. "Some resented that because they were used to being in the center of everything going on."

The College of Education had its first meeting in Memorial Hall after it announced it would relocate in the fall of 2005. Employees gathered in the auditorium to begin a tour of their future workspace. According to Wishon, at that point, the state of the building seemed bleak.

"We didn't think we would ever have it where it is today," Joyce Conley, building coordinator, said. "The first time we had a meeting [over here] to discuss the College of Education moving over here, we met in the auditorium and it was in disarray. Trash was all over the building, it had not been cleaned, construction had not started taking place."

In the spring of 2005, JMU announced it would lease Memorial Hall for five years at a cost of \$7.5 million and later purchase it. After much-needed renovations, such as upgraded classroom technology and a redesigned floor plan, the College of Education moved into its new home and was fully operational in the fall of 2006. Given the layout of the building, when classes were first taught at Memorial Hall, professors often found themselves wandering the halls looking for lost students.

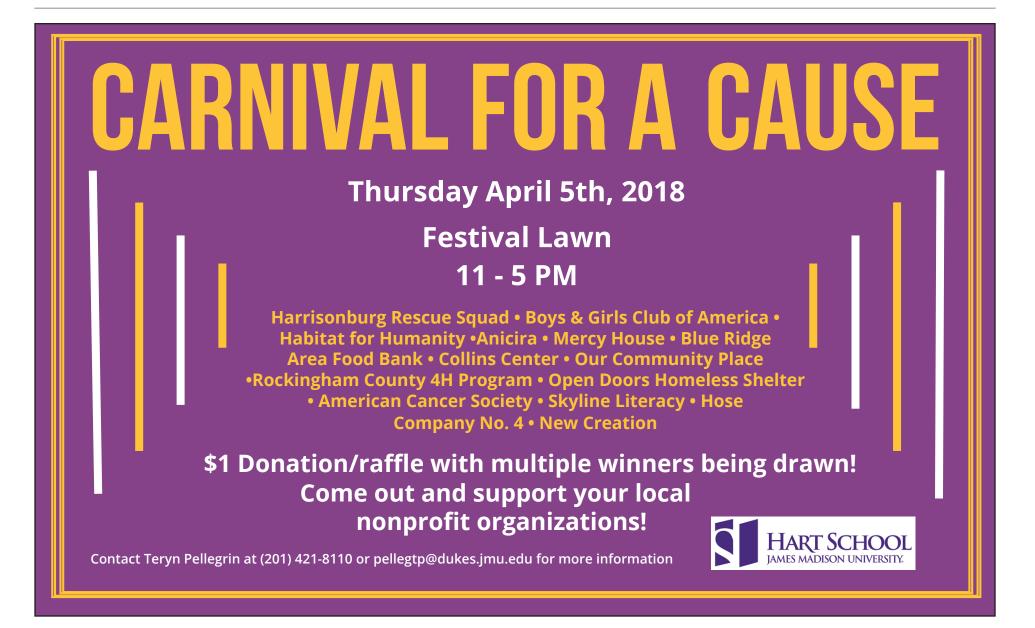
"Other than confusion, it was interesting on the first day of class because a lot of students had never been in this building," Huffman said. "I felt like a traffic cop, you know, I was down the hallway directing people."

There's an inter-campus shuttle that makes routine stops at Memorial Hall throughout the school week. For the faculty, they believe they have the luxury of worry-free parking.

For the College of Education as a whole, one of the main perks of relocating aside from the parking benefits is that the department is in one building. This allows students and faculty to communicate in an efficient manner.

"We can send students down the hall instead of to another building," Conley said. "They can come in and meet with the dean or our assistant dean for advising instead of sending them to Roop Hall to talk to a faculty member."

**CONTACT** Katelyn Waltemyer at waltemkb@ dukes.jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.



# VISION SERIES

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> - JAMES MADISON THE FEDERALIST PAPERS, NO. 51

Jim Acosta is CNN senior White House correspondent, currently covering the Trump administration and previously covered the Obama administration from the White House and around the world. He regularly covers presidential press conferences, visits by heads of states, and issues impacting the Executive Branch of the federal government. In addition, Acosta reported from the 2016 campaign trail following Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. Acosta is based in the network's Washington, D.C., bureau and serves as a substitute anchor for the network across a variety of CNN programs. Previously, Acosta was national political correspondent throughout CNN's 'America's Choice 2012' election coverage, embedded with the Romney presidential campaign as the lead correspondent. He traveled with the GOP presidential candidate to key battleground states and to the U.K., Israel, and Poland, covering the latest campaign developments. Acosta sat down with Mitt Romney for two one-on-one interviews, breaking several political stories and presidential debate coverage. In addition, he covered both of President Barack Obama's inaugurations and contributed to the network's mid-term election coverage. Acosta will serve as the fourth and final Madison Vision Series speaker this year.

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Thursday, April 5, 2018

10

# Emotional courage takes strength

### HANNAH ROBINSON medicine for the soul



In a world running on relentless positivity, we've forgotten how it feels to be sad. I'm talking sobbing

on your

floor with your face in a bucket of Ben & Jerry's sad — and not beating yourself up for a very human slipup for the rest of the week.

Although everyone experiences negative thoughts and feelings, very few understand the value these emotions hold. There are many important lessons in learning to be comfortable with the uncomfortable.

In a world that avoids negative emotions like an ex-lover in Carrier Library, it's no surprise we've become inept at dealing with them. Society has convinced us that emotions can only be one of two things: good or bad, right or wrong. However, it isn't all black and white. In fact, viewing human emotions in such a rigid manner is the exact reason so many of us are silently hurting.

Susan David, a renowned psychologist and expert on emotions, surveyed over 70,000 people. She found that a third of them either judged themselves for having "bad" emotions like sadness, anger or grief or pushed aside these feelings rather than facing them. She claimed the cause of this was due to "a tyranny of positivity" inflicted on us by society.

The word "tyranny" probably doesn't come to mind when reflecting on positivity, but maybe David has a point. Maybe as a society, we've pushed positivity so much, that in a way, it's become a type of twisted dictatorship; one that screams "you'll be happy," even if we'd rather take a moment and sit with sadness.

In a TED Talk, David spoke on the power of emotional courage and the healing that can come of it. In her talk, she reminisced on the moment she found peace in the face of negative feelings. She described her eighth-grade English teacher who encouraged her to write like no one was reading. She claims the simple act of self-reflection invited her to "show up" to her grief and pain and welcome them like old friends. Only then could she truly work through the heaviness negative thoughts and emotions brought and begin to heal from the pain.

We not only reject our own negative emotions, but we reject other emotions as well. Society would rather try and jump to a solution instead of taking a moment to honor negative feelings as something valuable and worth exploring. By categorizing emotions as either good or bad, we take away their normalcy. This mindset can make other people feel ostracized or crazy for feeling something other than happy 24/7.

Everyone deals with difficult emotions differently. Some of us may overthink and find ourselves in a constant state of worry and distress while others may choose to drink their sorrows away because in the moment it feels easier than dealing with their problems. I can't count the amount of times I've heard people throw around the phrase "just cheer up" or "stay positive" when giving their friends advice. Although I have no doubt these hopeful statements come from a place of love, we must remember that feeling sad or angry sometimes may be just what we need to move forward.

Humans try to determine which feelings are legitimate and which aren't

 Image: state stat

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a sense of order in our minds. However, the moment we realize that every feeling — no matter how difficult it is to face — is valid, we'll begin to grow into a state of self-actualization.

Growing up, I was taught by every voice outside of my own that emotions would be my downfall and that my sensitivity and vulnerability would be the death of me. Sadly, I listened to those voices for much longer than I should've, until one day I woke up and realized how ridiculous it all sounded. Every emotion a person feels gives them insight into where they can grow. By taking your difficult thoughts and feelings and recognizing they're indeed normal and actually pretty helpful — someone can move forward and become an even better version of themself.

SP

Hannah Robinson is a senior communication studies major. Contact Hannah at robinshl@ dukes.jmu.edu.

Editorial Policies The Breeze 1598 S. Main Street Harrisonburg, VA 22801 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.

# **The plastic purge** Drinking straws have a negative effect on marine life

### LUKE BORMAN second thought



One of the most relatable aspects of JMU life is complaining about the straws at PC Dukes. No matter how many times the flimsy things are banished, they always find their way back to splinter whenever a student

puts them in the lid of their drink. These straws are supposed to be eco-friendly by being extra thin to take up less plastic. However, this only leads to people taking three or four, given that they expect the first couple to break. Luckily there's a better way to be eco-friendly when it comes to straws — by not using them.

According to Pew Research Center, 75 percent of Americans are "particularly concerned" about the environment and 74 percent say "the country should do whatever it takes to protect the environment." Still, about half a billion plastic straws end up in the ocean each year, where they hurt and kill wildlife. Plastic straws are petroleum-based, which means they use up precious and limited fossil fuels, and are sadly one of the most common items found during beach cleanups. There needs to be something done about this.

One of the best reasons to stop using straws is that it's relatively easy. Other than people who need them for medical reasons, there isn't any strong rationale behind using them. At home, we don't use straws; we drink straight from the cup. But once we go out to a restaurant or dining hall, cups suddenly aren't good enough.

For some, the straw is a big convenience for to-go cups, in places like Festival, Top Dog and Dukes. When there's a lid, there comes a straw — but that raises the question of why a lid is needed in the first place. As with straws, we don't need lids at home. We don't put lids on our glass of water or mug of coffee. When we were three or four, we stopped using sippy cups because we were old enough to drink straight from a cup without spilling. Now, we seem to have lost that ability.

When at Dukes next, think before putting a lid on that cup and poking a straw through — possibly several times. If taking the drink to go, consider leaving the lid on to avoid spilling while walking. Then just take it off to drink like a water bottle. You'll save the environment the burden of one more straw. If you're eating inside of Dukes, don't get a lid. After all, there's no real reason for someone to have a lid if they're going to be sitting down to eat. You don't need it and you'll save a straw and a lid. If at a place like Mongolian Grill where the cashiers serve drinks to you, ask the cashier to fill it up for you and they will, and you'll save the waste of a straw, lid and cup.

While all those are great ideas for how to help the environment and reduce waste on various levels, the best solution of all is just to use a reusable cup.

Even if you need a straw for a medical reason or just don't want to smudge your lipstick or are afraid of germs, get a reusable straw. Make a statement and save the environment, and when people ask you why your straw is so much cooler than theirs, tell them you're saving the oceans. 74 percent of us think the country should do whatever it takes to save the environment, so let's do what it takes. Be the change.

Luke Borman is a junior international affairs major. Contact Luke at bormanIn@dukes. imu.edu.



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# *Gender stereotypes inhibit self-expression*

KAT ELLIS / THE BREEZE

### **MEGAN TAYLOR** | contributing columnist



Before a baby is born, parents paint their nursery blue or pink in anticipation of their child's gender. They begin to imagine who their baby boy or girl will be.Without noticing it, the perfect image

they've created in their head is more than likely full of gender-based stereotypes. As children grow up, we teach them what they should and shouldn't do depending on their sex. Imposing these stereotypes on children impacts who they become, and it's unfair. Not only does it prevent children from expressing themselves, but it's something that sticks with them throughout adulthood.

Babies and small children constantly observe everything around them. Although a pink or blue nursery won't have much of an effect, there are many other factors at play. Not allowing young boys to play with dolls limits their ability to become nurturing men and affects their social and language skills. On the other hand, when a girl only has toys that imitate household items, it gives them the false belief that they should only work in the house. While a child enjoying time with their chosen toy isn't a problem, when children are only exposed to certain types of toys it becomes an issue.

As children develop, their view of the world is based on what they see. Given that children start watching television when they're barely older than a year, what they see is important. In television, men are portrayed more than women. According to Margot Magowan, "of the 21 movie posters for young kids, only 4 appear to feature a female protagonist; 16 appear to feature a male protagonist; and 10 of those movies are named for the male star." Girls are underrepresented and when they are represented, it's not usually in a complimentary way.

Furthermore, due to social media, women are expected to uphold a certain physical appearance. This mindset begins when little girls are exposed to society's expectations of women in the media. According to Renee Hobbs, an associate professor of communications at Temple University, "the average teen girl gets about 180 minutes of media exposure daily and only about 10 minutes of parental interaction," and when that media exposure portrays unrealistic body images, it can cause girls to be unhappy with their body.

Suddenly, playground comments like "you hit like a girl" becomes an insult. It reaches a point where doing something like a girl is viewed in a negative light. This dilemma wasn't addressed until the "Like a Girl" campaign in 2014.

Sayings such as "man up" and "boys will be boys" are spoken too often and insinuate that boys should not show emotion. "When boys are told not to cry or feel, they lose touch with all of their feelings and it has long term, lasting effects on their mental health and their relationships," psychotherapist Lena Derhally said.

These stereotypes persist as children grow into adults. When boys turn into men, his masculinity is often determined by how physically strong he is, the amount of girls he dates and his position of power. On the other hand, women are silenced, and when they fight to be heard they're seen as bossy or too emotional.

Children shouldn't be confined by gender roles. Life shouldn't be a competition of the sexes. Though there are some biological and neurological differences between boys and girls, in the end we're all human. We like the same things, we have the same dreams. Differences arise when society starts telling kids who they should be.

Whether we like it or not, who we become is affected by how well we fit into those boy and girl boxes built by society. These social constructs start off in someone's childhood and continue with them into their adulthood. Recently, people have been standing up against these gender stereotypes and fighting for equality. However, change starts with children and until we break free from the confinements of gender roles inequality amongst genders will persist.

Megan Taylor is a freshman writing, rhetoric and technical communication major. Contact Megan at taylormn@dukes.jmu.edu.





### breezejmu.org OPINION

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A **"do-better"** dart to JMU parking services for expensive parking passes with no parking. *From a broke college student who can never find a parking spot.* 

A **"you-suck"** dart to D-Hub for not staying open late enough. *From a hungry college student.* 

A **"you're-the-best"** pat to friends who are willing to FaceTime you all hours of the day.

From a college student whose life is hard.

A **"you're-awesome"** pat to that boy in my calculus class for not stealing my seat. *From a fed up college student*.

A **"you're-still-contagious"** dart to the student with Norovirus who shared more than candy filled eggs with my 2-year-old during the Greek Row egghunt. *From a parent who has been dealing with a toddler unable to keep anything down for four days.* 



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EDITORS Abby Church & Sabrina Moreno EMAIL thebreezeculture@gmail.com

Thursday, April 5, 2018

16



### Local indie group aims to make music accessible to others

### **By KAILEY CHENG** The Breeze

The story began with a single musician, when singer-songwriter Claire Merian, a JMU alumna ('17), decided to put her music out to the world. She called the unique sound "housewife pop." Then, the feminine-fronted indie-pop band Dead Bedrooms was formed, with Audrey Hessler on guitar and bass, Delaney Keefe on synth and background vocals and Jack Hales on drums and bass.

As a feminine-fronted band, Dead Bedrooms is used to being treated differently, as there are only a few bands with a majority of female members in the scene today. The band was formed at the end of August 2017, and has faced several challenges regarding its femininity since then.

"It's strange, because I knew that in theory, women in bands have a harder time being taken seriously," Hessler, a sophomore political science major, said. "Still, I didn't expect it to be so blatantly obvious. We played a show one time, and came in with amps and instruments. Jack was running a little late. We came through the entrance that the band was supposed to come in, and people were questioning us with amps and guitars in our hands and weren't sure if we were part of the band."

One aspect of Dead Bedrooms that gives it more difficulty fitting in is two of the members are self-taught. Despite this, all members are able to be performance-ready and continue to grow together through shows in Harrisonburg and tours. The band recently toured in New Jersey, Washington, D.C. and Virginia.

"We know how to play our stuff," Keefe, a junior political science major, said. "But as soon as we say we aren't sure what we're doing, other bands - especially those who are all men become very rude and condescending. So we just pretend that we do know what we're doing, and they treat us better."

Dead Bedrooms pursues a genre that tends to be occupied by males, but the band has their own personal twist. "Housewife pop" has a candid, stripped-down and simple sound that's relatable to listeners who've experienced failed romantic relationships, according to Merian.

'The music we're inspired by is lyrically dark and sad." Hales, a junior international affairs major, said. "There's a lot of music like that made by men and a genre that we don't have many women in. Since it's a male-dominated genre, it's cool being able to own that by being in this female-fronted band and put out stuff that's very emotionally heavy too. I like seeing and hearing about all the people, especially

women, who come to us and tell us what they've heard in Claire's songs."

The band favors simple over complex sound and writes lyrics that describe situations most young adults go through in their lifetime. Its album "Bummer" encapsulates the ending of long-term relationships and the struggles that include emotional recovery from those situations.

The emotion in every song makes them unique," Keefe said. "It's all about the emotion and the relatability of being in a long-term relationship, then breaking up and still wanting to go to different events you used to go to when you were with the person you were dating. I think that's something everyone can relate to." Each member of Dead Bedrooms has

their own individual sound, but together, the bandmates are able to create pieces that unite their musical identities. They also aim to make music that conveys straightforward and understandable messages.

"I think it's easy to listen to," Merian said. "I was tired of hearing music that isn't accessible to others because it's very technical or avantgarde. I wanted something that would be simple for people to connect with and not feel alienated. It's a manifestation of each of our own personalities."

Dead Bedrooms' goal is to influence other feminine-fronted bands in positive ways. Members want to be seen as inspirations to other bands through their successes. The band also wants to see confidence grow in young people who are apprehensive about stepping into the band life.

"Other femme-fronted bands immediately understand the insecurity that goes along with it," Hessler said. "I want to see people being OK with an audience seeing them for who they are, and it's OK if they're not perfect with their instrument. They should be doing it because they're passionate about it."

In the future, Dead Bedrooms wants to see more bands like it and to make an impact with feminine gender representation. In addition, it also wants to continue touring in places outside of Harrisonburg.

"My hope is that no feminine person who wants to make music would stop themselves because they think they don't belong or have enough experience to record a song," Merian said. "Anyone can do it. Don't be afraid."

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Dead Bedrooms, formed in late 2017, plays "housewife pop" about experiences young adults go through.

breezejmu.org CULTURE



Seymour's grandmother inspired her to open the store. She used to accompany her on trips to trade shows where vendors would debut the newest candies.

### **By BROOKE IMPERIAL** *The Breeze*

Signs reading "don't grow up it's a trap" and "proceed with candy" greet customers as they stroll into a colorful pocket of Agora Market in downtown Harrisonburg. Mandy's Candy sells an eclectic selection of sweet and sour treats, the majority of which first appeared in the 20th century like Zagnut bars, Idaho Spuds and candy cigarettes.

Amanda Seymour, owner of Mandy's Candy, has dreamed of opening a candy shop since she was 12 years old. Although this aspiration evolved from her love of candy, Seymour received the most inspiration from her grandmother.

Seymour's grandmother was the manager of a convenience store and brought Seymour along for trade shows that debuted the latest candies before they were put on the market. After living in Harrisonburg for over a decade, she decided to pursue her passion in June 2017. She wanted to make people were just as awestruck as she'd been during those trade shows years ago.

"I hope I give that experience of a child listening to their parents or grandparents tell them about their childhood," Seymour said. "[My shop] brings families together and gives them a common ground to bond over."

Because of her grandmother's influence, Seymour enjoys seeing families in her store and is delighted when she sees her customers bond with loved ones in her shop. Cate Nelson, a regular customer of Mandy's Candy, visited the store last fall with her two sons and was instantly fond of Seymour's personality and attentiveness to her children. "She remembers my boys' favorite items and recently, she remembered that their grandparents were visiting," Nelson said. "That engagement is representative of Harrisonburg as a whole and Amanda is an exemplary person to show that side of the community."

For Nelson, there are two important reasons she and her sons keep coming back to Mandy's Candy — Seymour's welcoming personality and the rare collection of candies she sells. Not only does the shop offer 20th-century confections, but it also carries homemade fudge and gift baskets as well.

"We have nothing else quite like [Mandy's Candy]," Nelson said. "I'm so glad we have a cute boutique full of goodies that I enjoy as much as my children do."

The community of Agora Market vendors has grown since last summer when the space opened for business. While Seymour was one of the first tenants, other businesses just moved in such as Lineage Goods. Paul Hansbarger, the owner of Lineage Goods, only opened his business in Agora in February, but had visited the market before.

"Mandy's shop is one of the more unique shops within the Agora space," Hansbarger said. "There's hard-tofind candies and a lot of things I've never seen or heard of before."

Though he moved in a little over a month ago, Hansbarger is able to see the hard work that goes into Seymour's shop. Often bringing his family to her store, Hansbarger enjoys Seymour's warm disposition as well as her candy.

"I think she definitely adds color and energy to the space," Hansbarger said. "I think her personality is a great addition to Agora." The customer connections Seymour has built after opening less than a year ago represents the closeknit community of Harrisonburg. Having grown up in the small town of Shenandoah, Seymour is accustomed to forming relationships with customers and business owners alike. By using ingredients from Broad Porch Coffee — located only 50 feet from her shop in the market — and other local stores, Seymour bakes different kinds of fudge and other treats.

Patrons at Mandy's Candy often show the loyalty Seymour gives to other local businesses. Through her quirky signs and interesting candy assortments, she hopes to provide a fun place for children to interact with one another. "Probably at least 20 different

"Probably at least 20 different children come in regularly," Seymour said. "I love building up that repertoire with the kids and seeing them in this space."

While it can be hard to follow the saying, "Don't grow up," Mandy's Candy offers a colorful respite for those who want to be kids again, even if just for a few minutes. Whether someone loves Charleston Chews, Razzles or Necco Wafers, Seymour believes there's something for everyone.

"It's really fun seeing other grandparents come in and show their grandkids, 'Oh look, I used to eat these all the time," Seymour said. "It's a fun experience. It makes me happy to see my customers happy."

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desk on Twitter @Breeze\_Culture. The shop sells a wide variety of 20th century confections like Charleston Chews.

### **18** Thursday, April 5, 2018 –

### breezejmu.org CULTURE



### **By MADDIE DISTEFANO** contributing writer

In the heart of downtown Harrisonburg, a thrift shop specializing in 1960s and '70s vintage clothing, accessories, houseware, knick-knacks and furniture can be found nestled in Agora Downtown Market. A hidden gem, Heartworn Vintage also branches into the '50s and '80s and is owned by mother-daughter duo Allie Motyka and Cathy Hurst.

Hurst had been thrifting and antique hunting for 30 years, and when given the opportunity to open a shop in Harrisonburg's Agora Downtown Market in June 2017, she knew it'd be the perfect fit.

"We've been collecting for years," Hurst said. "We have a lot of things and decided to stop buying for a while unless we had a place to sell — we like to collect the same stuff we sell. It's nice to have a spot to cycle it all in and out."

Hurst sold antiques at another shop for

about 20 years, but it's been a dream of hers since she was young to have a store of her own. The variety of vintage items the shop presents attracts a diverse audience.

"We have something for everybody — the clothing we have can be added to the style today or you can come in for costumes, music or gifts," Motyka said.

Growing up influenced by her mom's love for vintage items, Motyka found a passion for thrifting and treasure hunting, which she says is one of her favorite parts of the job. Their collection grew over the years through an auction house down the road, local thrift stores, yard sales and flea markets.

Hurst and Motyka said even on vacation, they're looking for treasures for their own collection or to bring back to the shop. Hurst says they're "always on the hunt for new stuff," adding that she's traveled as far as Florida in search of vintage gems.

see THRIFT, page 20



Mother-daughter duo Hurst and Motyka sell a variety of vintage items from the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s.





Senior writer Ali Gips takes readers on a step-by-step process of ordering at the newly opened Poke Alakai, Harrisonburg's first poke bowl restaurant. It offers choices from tuna and shrimp to tofu, salmon and eel.

### **By ALI GIPS** The Breeze

As a sushi lover, there's not much that beats a traditional sushi roll. However, restaurants are getting creative and innovating new concepts for the classic Hawaiian dish. This past summer, I tried my hand at the sushi burrito trend and instantly understood what all the hype was about. It took two of my favorite cuisines and fused them together in one delicious meal.

After falling in love with what was technically a giant sushi roll, I never imagined I'd discover a sushi dish I liked more. On March 23, Poke Alakai had its grand opening and changed my mind.

Located on Reservoir Street along the same strip as J-Petal, the restaurant is serving up poke bowls with a punch. Think of a poke bowl as a deconstructed sushi roll or a raw fish salad. It's taking all of your favorite ingredients of a sushi roll and placing it in one big bowl.

I walked into Poke Alakai with little knowledge of the menu or ordering process. I scanned the lengthy menu and was positively overwhelmed by the customization and control I had over my bowl. Since there were so many options, the menu followed an order through steps.

The first step is to choose your bowl size. Customers can get a small, which comes with two scoops of protein, or a large, which comes with three. There's also an option for extra protein for an additional price if a person is inclined, but I went with a small.

The next step is to pick a base. Customers choose between sushi rice or brown rice, fresh romaine or a spring mix. In other words, this is the step that determines if your bowl is more of a salad of greens or grains. I decided to stay traditional and go with the white sushi rice.

Step three is where all the mix-ins come into play. The list of options is long, but I decided to go with cilantro, edamame, sesame seeds, green onions and, after some convincing from the person preparing my dish, diced mango.

The fourth step is where protein comes into play. There's a seletion of either tuna, shrimp, organic tofu, salmon, yellowtail or eel.

I decided to stick with what I know and love and got two scoops of fresh tuna. I considered trying something new, but rationalized that the variety and mixture of toppings added was the equivalent of trying something new.

I then continued down the line to the secondto-last step: choosing sauce. For me, this step was a no-brainer. Out of the nine sweetsounding options, I settled on sesame ginger.

At this point, I was ready to move on to the sixth and final step: choosing toppings. This is where a customer can completely alter his or her bowl. There are over 15 additional toppings that can add new elements to a bowl. I pushed aside my less-is-more motto and ran wild with toppings. I added corn, cucumber, sesame seeds, peppers, lettuce and shredded beets to the finalized bowl.

By the time the bowl was complete, it looked too pretty to eat. All the ingredients were meticulously placed into a work of art. Once I got past this fact, I went in for my first bite and the flavor combination was unlike anything I was expecting.

The sesame ginger sauce drizzled on top added a sweet element that tied the entire dish together. It was the perfect ratio of soft to crunchy elements that all worked so nicely in combination. I could taste the freshness of both the tuna and the vegetables. The contrast from the cold, melt-in-your-mouth tuna paired with the warm, steamed rice was an unbeatable duo.

Plus, the add-ins I initially questioned working together were delicious. The only one I didn't care for was the lettuce, but I easily ate around it. I wasn't crazy about the combination of rice and leafy greens, but I'm still glad I tried it out. Once I finished my bowl, I immediately started considering other ingredients and flavor combinations for next time. Maybe by my next visit I'll be brave enough to try the eel, but we'll see.

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### THRIFT | Mother-daughter duo uses knack for finding quality vintage items to create nostalgic experience

### from page 18

"Everything we buy, we love," Hurst said. "I've held onto some of this stuff for a long time. I'm just now thinking to let some of it go, 'cause you can't keep it all."

Through her years of collecting, Hurst has gained a knack for finding unique, eye-catching items to sell in her shop. These items collected by Hurst and Motyka for sale at Heartworn Vintage take customers back in time.

"We want to make use of things that are already made rather than continuing to buy new," Motyka said. "You can bring life back into these items that have already been around for 50+ years."

Agora Downtown Market is located in the Wine Brothers Building, next to Clementine's and Ruby's. Hurst and Motyka's shop, along with a candy shop, coffee shop, art gallery and seven other small businesses, create a one-of-a-kind indoor market. The open, fair-style environment helps small businesses like Heartworn Vintage thrive and present their unique qualities.

"We're doing well because of the setting we're in," Hurst said. "With all these other businesses, you might get somebody that's coming in for coffee but ends up spotting something in one of the other stores just from passing by.

Heartworn Vintage was one of the original shops in Agora along with the adjacent coffee

shop, Broad Porch Coffee Co. Phil Duntemann, one of the owners of the coffee shop, met Motyka a few years ago and was later introduced to her mother before the opening of Agora in 2017.

Duntemann says the goods in the shop are not only quality, but also items you can't find elsewhere. The close vicinity of the shops presents the opportunity for business owners to bond and get to know one another better.

"It's also fun. We all get lunch together," said Duntemann. "We get Taco Tuesday's and get like 30 tacos from Sabor A Mexico. It's fun and it works out business-wise, too."

Heartworn Vintage is one of the few vintage stores in Harrisonburg, and the diversity of the items sold is able to draw in an array of different customers. What makes this shop even more unique is the relationship the owners share. The mother-daughter duo brings a fresh take on vintage items that are no longer on shelves elsewhere.

"It's awesome to get to work alongside my mom in a business we both dreamed of running," Motyka said. "We both love what we do and can't believe we get to do it together."

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The shop combines costumes, music and gifts. Motyka and Hurst always search to add something new.



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Ty Dolla \$ign's upcoming performance on April 18 represents new level of prominence for UPB

'Blasé blasé blasé'

### By CAMRYN FINN The Breeze

The sound of laughter echoes down the hallway of Madison Union. A group of students is gathered around a table in the corner office eating their lunches. The windows are decorated with markers and posters hung on the walls from previous concerts hosted on campus. These are the members of the University Program Board.

> The University Program Board is a group of students responsible for hosting programs for students all over campus, from the movies every weekend at Grafton-Stovall Theatre to the monthly Spotlight Sound concerts at Taylor Down Under. Some of their most recent work has been on the annual spring concert.

This year's concert features rap artist Ty Dolla \$ign with rhythm and blues artist Ella Mai as his opener. The concert is on April 18 at 8 p.m. at the Convocation Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are on sale now.

Tickets purchased online ahead of time range from \$23 - 40 for students and \$30 - 35 for general admission.

Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$29 - 35 for students and \$35 - 39 for general admission. The UPB committee in charge of planning of this concert is the Center Stage Committee.

There are five different committees within UPB, each responsible for different activities throughout the year. Kendall Griffith, a freshman media arts and design major, describes the committee selection process.

"Once you're in [UPB], you do a bunch of training and have opportunities to sit in on all these committee meetings and work with the committee," Griffith said. "Towards the end, we have a pit reveal, which is kind of like big/little and choosing your committee, and we get to preference which committees we would like based on our experiences."

The UPB Center Stage Committee is responsible for booking artists for large-scale campus events. Along with the spring concert, the Center Stage Committee also books the fall semester concert and assists with booking artists for Madipalooza.

Yara Azar is a senior communication studies major and serves as the the director of the Center Stage Committee. She said this year's concert is unique because of Ty Dolla \$ign's prominence.

see **CONCERT**, page 22

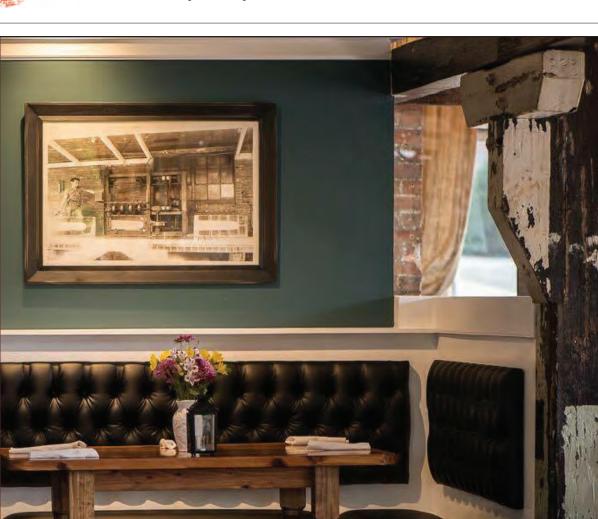


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**CONCERT** | UPB uses input of students to decide artist for upcoming spring performance

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JMU students have hopes of hearing Ty Dolla \$ign's collaboration "She Don't" with opening act, Ella Mai.

### from page 21

"This year we have a little bit bigger of an artist than normal," Azar said. "We reworked our budget so we could account for that and he has taken over the charts. He is a great artist and he's actually rare in that he is a rap artist that has a full band rather than singing over a track like most of them do, so I think everything about the show is go big or go home."

The selection process for the annual spring concert heavily relies on student participation. After researching who's available for the predetermined date, the Center Stage Committee sends a survey via email to JMU students to select the artist. Once the survey is closed, the Center Stage Committee sends an offer directly to the artists in order of the number of votes received.

Katie Miller is a senior communication studies major and the Public Relations Director at UPB. She emphasizes how important it is for student to participate in the surveys so UPB can bring artists who influence the current student population the most.

"It's super important for students to take the time, take the survey and then go to the concert that they voted for, because it's only four years at college to say 'I saw Jesse McCartney on my campus,' or 'I got to see Ty Dolla \$ign on my own JMU campus,''' Miller said. "It's such a rarity for them and it's a great opportunity for them to see a concert at this price."

Members of UPB have been tirelessly working to prepare for the event and are currently in the marketing stage to encourage their fellow JMU students to attend the concert. They've been focusing on social media outreach to increase ticket sales.

JMU students have high hopes for this concert, especially as Ty Dolla \$ign has just released a new song, "Pineapple." There are also hopes that he will perform "She Don't" as it features the opening artist, Ella Mai.

"It's everything you would get out of an EDM show, a rap show and a regular band," Azar said. "[Ty Dolla \$ign] is very unique in that regard and he has a great reputation in the music industry and music community."

**CONTACT** Camryn Finn at finnce@dukes.jmu. edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze\_ Culture.

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Thursday, April 5, 2018

# t could've A look back at the 1981-82 JMU men's basketball team

that was 2 points away from an upset over No.1 UNC

The JMU men's basketball team played UNC in the 1982 March Madness tournament. The Dukes faced off against Michael Jordan and the Tar Heels in the second round after JMU beat Ohio State in the first game.

### **By NOAH ZIEGLER** The Breeze

The 1982 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship is one remembered by many. Arguably the greatest basketball player of all time, Michael Jordan, hit the spotlight when he nailed the game-winning shot to win the title for UNC. This is regarded as the first time Jordan introduced himself to a national audience, but that moment almost didn't happen. UNC was nearly eliminated in the second round that year. In fact, it took a few calls going the Tar Heels' way for them to get the win. The school that nearly shocked the nation and upset Dean Smith's team? JMU.

It's hard to think that nearly 40 years ago, JMU was a basketball-crazy school. Just as fans pile into Bridgeforth Stadium during the fall, supporters would crowd Godwin Hall in the winter whenever the Dukes played. The "Electric Zoo" would do its best to make Godwin and the Convocation Center, when it opened in 1982, a daunting environment.

"Basketball at JMU back in the early '80s was what football is like there now," former center Dan Ruland, class of 1983, said. "Basketball was different back then. We packed the Convocation Center every game. If we didn't sell out, it was pretty close to it."

In 1982, the Dukes finished the regular season 21-4, going 10-1 in conference play. They fell to

in-state foe ODU in the conference tournament final. but still found their way into the NCAA tournament. Pitted against Ohio State in the first round, the pressure was on JMU, but former guard Charles Fisher, class of 1983, knew the team was confident despite the doubters.

"They had no respect for us," Fisher said. "They were wondering how we were going to do against the pressure. During that time, we were very confident of our abilities and

knew what our strengths were." After conquering the Buckeyes 55-48, JMU UNC, Roy Williams, saw Dupont play in a

was set for a date with the No. 1 seed UNC. The Heels boasted players like James Worthy,

Sam Perkins and Iordan, UNC was going against JMU players such as Ruland and Woody Boler, who grew up Carolina fans.

raised "Being North Carolina fan, it was a unique experience," former guard Dupont, David class of 1983, said. "Boler was raised a Carolina fan, too. remarkable It's going against the team you grew up dreaming to play

for." For Dupont, the connection between UNC and JMU was formed

before his collegiate career even started. Then-assistant coach for

scrimmage and contacted the coaching staff at IMU.

BREEZE FILE PHOTOS

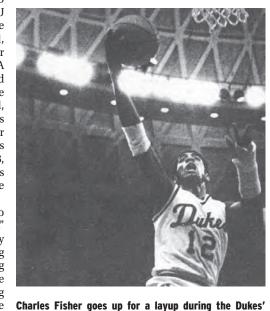
"[Williams] told JMU, 'There's a guy down in Greensboro that might fit in well with your program," Dupont said. "JMU soon offered me a scholarship and that was a unique relationship between JMU and UNC that played out in my favor."

As expected, going up against one of the best teams in the country brought anxiety to the team. With those nerves, however, came excitement and eagerness to show the nation what JMU men's basketball could do.

"We knew [UNC] was taller than us," Fisher said. "They were just as smart as we were, but we felt we were just as even as them. The only advantage they had was that they were taller than us, but we knew if we boxed them out we would have a chance."

On March 13, 1982, the Dukes took the floor at Charlotte Coliseum in hopes of shocking the nation. A mid-major school from the Shenandoah Valley didn't shy away from the spotlight and gave the Tar Heels a run for their money. At the end of the first half, the score was 31-28 in UNC's favor.

"During that whole game, we matched them point for point," Fisher said. "It was a couple calls here and there that could've gone our way and we would've won the game.'



1981-82 season. He started when the Dukes faced UNC.

America loves an underdog story. George Mason's run to the Final Four in 2006, Butler's dance to the championship game in 2010 and 2011 and Loyola-Chicago's Final Four run this year. As the Dukes were neck and neck with a blue blood, more neutral fans hoped for an upset.

"The place felt like an 'anybody-but-Carolina' crowd," Dupont said. "The longer we stayed in the game, the more the crowd pulled for us to win."

The game came down to the last minute. Despite the crowd starting to root for JMU, the push wasn't enough to bring the Dukes over the finish line.

"We were down four with 57 seconds left," Fisher said. "I had the ball and took the ball to the basket, then James Worthy stepped in front of me to take the charge. I made the basket, but the referee waved off the basket and called an offensive charge."

Fisher was a 82.9 percent free throw shooter, showing if the call went the Dukes' way, they likely would've tied the game. The Tar Heels managed to escape with a 52-50 victory.

"It's remarkable how many people you run into that still remember that game," Dupont said. "I think entering the tournament last year Roy Williams brought up Fisher and I by name. The UNC coaching staff remembers the near miss in 1982."

The Dukes finished the season at 24-6 (10-1 ECACS) — the 15th best record in Division I. Fisher, Ruland and Linton Townes all eventually played in the NBA.

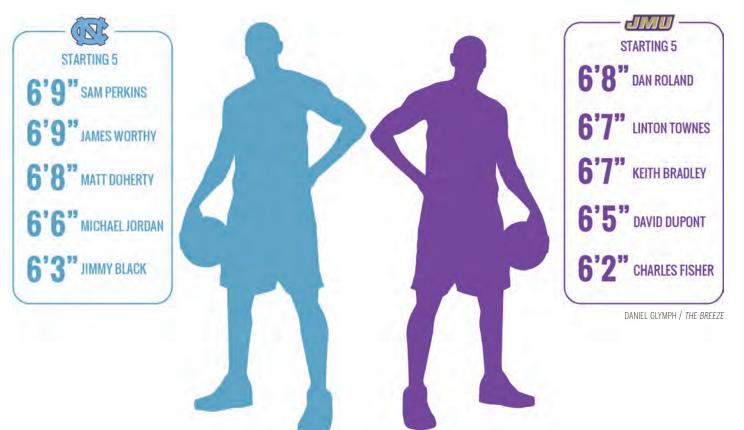
March is such a special time for sports fans because of the Cinderella stories. While the top schools are usually the last ones standing, the little team that could is something fans always remember.

"That's what makes the tournament so exciting," Dupont said. "There's underdogs that can play."

**CONTACT** Noah Ziegler at zieglernh@ dukes.jmu.edu. For basketball coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.



The Dukes looked a bit undersized when they faced the Tar Heels in 1982







A family on and off the field

JMU's ultimate frisbee club works to build strong relationships away from the game

### **By CONNOR MCCARTHY** The Breeze

It's one thing for athletes to want to better their team and themselves, but it's another when athletes come together to benefit their community. For the young men and women on JMU's club ultimate frisbee teams, giving back is one of their most important values.

On Sunday, JMU's club ultimate teams will host their annual HUCK Tournament to raise money for the organization Overcoming Barriers. Overcoming Barriers is a physical activity and wellness program for those with disabilities. Admission into

the tournament is open to everyone; fielding a squad isn't even necessary, as teams are chosen at random for the event. This assures that teams have a good mix of amateur and competitive ultimate players while allowing people to make new friends.

"We've created such a great community together," Colin Smith, a senior and president of men's club ultimate frisbee, said. "All my friends are on the team and it's such a positive group of people to be around."

For JMU's club ultimate teams, the HUCK Tournament is a way to spread the joy of playing ultimate frisbee with the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, and to raise money for the Overcoming Barriers Project. "Anybody can come out," women's

captain Jameela Abdullahi said. "It's a super fun day full of ultimate frisbee and friends. You get to play an awesome sport for a good cause."

Both ultimate teams take pride in their involvement in the youth community of Harrisonburg. Throughout the year, members of the teams visit Mountain View Elementary School's after-school ultimate club to throw with kids and teach them how to play the game.

"A couple of our girls and guys go out and throw the disc and play around with the elementary school kids," Abdullahi said. "They teach them the basics, but it's pretty cool and a lot of fun."

Mountain View Elementary School partners with JMU's ultimate frisbee club to learn more about the game and teamwork.

According to founder and coach of the Mountain View ultimate club Andy Routzahn, the club was founded to teach children the importance of teamwork, create an accepting environment and expand ultimate frisbee as a sport. JMU club ultimate has been an asset in accomplishing Routzahn's goals, and children love the time they get to spend with the college students. These interactions have led to a special bond between the ultimate teams.

"They kind of see them as big brothers and sisters." Routzahn said.

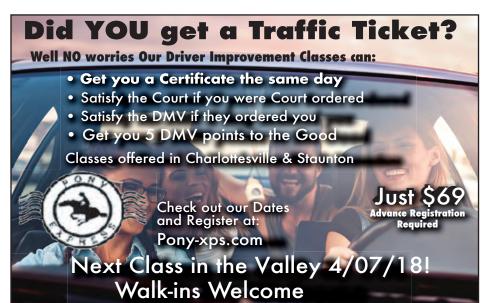
"They always ask about their day and catch up then they all jump right in and play together."

PHOTO COURTESY OF CLUB ULTIMATE FRISBE

The teams want to win tournaments and have competitive practices, but there's a heavy emphasis on acceptance and family on these teams. The diversity is part of what makes them so special and is one of the many reasons club members have been able to have such a positive impact in Harrisonburg.

**CONTACT** Connor McCarthy at mccartcs@dukes.jmu.edu. For more sports coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.





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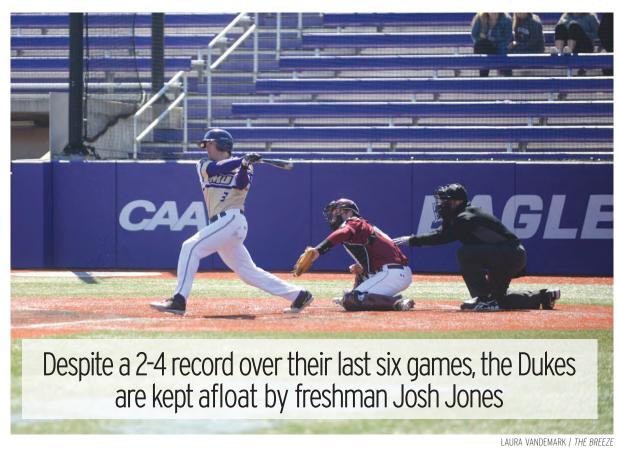


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# Young wolf leads pack amid Duke's struggles



Josh Jones swings at a pitch in a game earlier this year. Jones previously had a 12-game hitting streak this season that spanned over three weeks.

### By CONNOR MCCARTHY

The Breeze

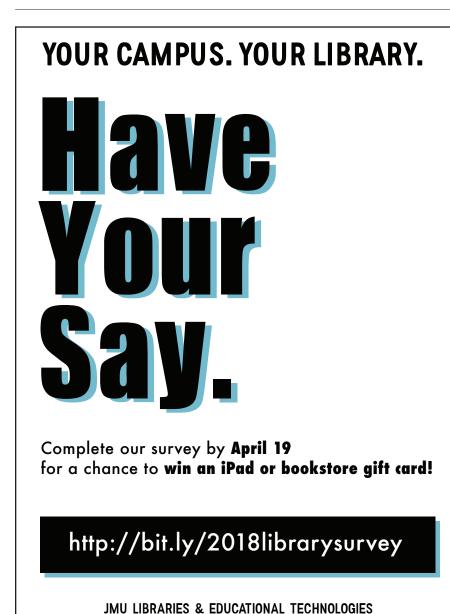
Adjusting from high school to college ball can be tough. The pitchers throw harder, athletes play more and the game moves at a faster pace. Nevertheless, JMU freshman infielder Josh Jones has made the transition look easy. Jones has started in 25 of the team's 27 games this season and leads the team in batting average (.349), hits (30) and on-base percentage (.418).

JMU has had an up and down start to its season and currently sits at 15-12 (2-4 CAA). Jones has been one of the Dukes' most consistent performers this season on a roster that has lacked consistency. His stellar play earned him CAA Rookie of the Week honors for March 4-10 – just three weeks into his collegiate career. In JMU's recent series against Elon, the Dukes had a middling offensive showing, putting up just 10 runs in three games. Jones, However, had an excellent series, collecting six hits for a batting average of .500.

"Working hard and preparation from my coaches," Jones said when asked about the reason for his early success. "I've put in a lot of time figuring out my swing, but working with them has definitely helped."

Defense has also been a struggle for the Dukes this season, as they currently rank last in the CAA with a .955 team fielding percentage. Jones hasn't been perfect this season — he has a .946 fielding percentage — but he's held down the shortstop position. In 111 opportunities, Jones has only made six errors and no more than one in a single game. In a fourgame stretch from March 18-24, Jones didn't make an error in 24 chances

"We've got to clean up some things to clean up defensively," head coach Marlin Ikenberry said. "But Josh has really been a staple in the middle infield, and he's done a great job."





### **#3JOSH .... ON-BASE** % JONES RBIS BATTING AVG

Jones' fast start has impressed his led to his early success and will continue teammates, including senior infielder Bradley McKay. Although McKay has been battling a slump this year — he has a .167 batting average — he's appreciated Jones' ability to pick up the slack. McKay realizes as one of the veteran members of the club, the younger guys look up to him to show them the work that must be put in to be successful. Jones picked up on the the team's mentality quickly, which has paid dividends.

"He just comes in and works really hard right away," McKay said. "It's obvious he knows a lot about the game of baseball, and by being himself and putting in the work, its led to some early success."

Ikenberry knew he had something special when Jones came to play for the Dukes — it's his cool and collected nature on the baseball field that's impressed Ikenberry the most this season. Ikenberry believes the shortstops composure has desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.

to benefit him down the stretch. Jones may not always blow people away with his athleticism, but his baseball intellect and clutch gene make him a force to be reckoned with.

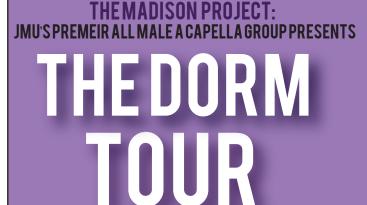
"When the scene gets bigger, he rises to the occasion," Ikenberry said. "It's kind of fun to watch, he didn't miss a beat when we played Tennessee or against High Point on opening day. He plays the game the right way, and his approach is unbelievable."

JMU is only six games into CAA play and has 28 remaining, meaning there's plenty of time for the Dukes to catch up in their conference. If the other JMU bats can keep up with Jones, that shouldn't be a problem.

CONTACT Connor McCarthy at mccartcs@dukes.jmu.edu. For more baseball coverage, follow the sports



Jones doesn't hit for a ton of power, but his ability to consistently get on base has made him a staple in the Dukes' lineup.



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