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MADISON

THE MAGAZINE OF JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

FALL 2011

Rescuing young readers

How one JMU grad student, a professor and an elementary school faculty are removing roadblocks

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Our annual look at JMU students'
**MADISON
EXPERIENCE**

**Know a prospective
JMU student?**

Share your magazine with a
top high-school student

Engineering independence

Engineering students build a bike for area teen Ricky Forgey
to overcome the barriers of cerebral palsy **PAGE 16**

FALL 2011





Celebrating after Sonia Sanchez's poetry reading are (l-r) Patricia Biela, Rachelle Jones, Sanchez, noted poet and professor Nikki Giovanni, LaShone Croom-McPherson and Danielle Hall. (Behind Jones is Joanne Gabbin, executive director of the Furious Flower Poetry Center.)

Internationally acclaimed Sonia Sanchez shares her works with educators and community BY MICHELLE HITE ('88)

FURIOUS FLOWER POWER

The JMU Furious Flower Poetry Center presented "Continuous Fire: A Seminar on the Poetry of Sonia Sanchez" June 19-25. Nearly 30 educators — college professors and high-school teachers — shared in workshops and discussions led by internationally renowned poet Sonia Sanchez and African American poetry experts. Other speakers included Executive Director of the Furious Flower Poetry Center and JMU English Professor Joanne Gabbin, Visiting English Professor Hilary Holladay and guest scholars John Bracey, Akasha Hull, Joyce Ann Joyce, Nzadi Keita, Haki Madhubuti, Brenda Greene and Jacqueline Wood.

Sanchez followed up the weeklong seminar with a public reading of her works and a book signing in the Festival Conference and Student Center. Poet Nikki Giovanni, who introduced

Sanchez, said that the retrospective reading was one of the best that she had heard Sanchez give; in her words, "Sonia was at the top of her game."

Sanchez is known as one of the most important writers of the Black Arts Movement. The activist also earned the Robert Frost Medal for distinguished lifetime service to American poetry and the Langston Hughes Poetry award. Her 16 books include *Homecoming*, *We a BaddDDD People*, *Homegirls and Handgrenades*, *Wounded in the House of a Friend*, and her most recent collection, *Morning Haiku*. Sanchez's accolades include a National Endowment for the Arts Award, the American Book Award, the Peace and Freedom Award from the Women International League for Peace and Freedom, and a PEW Fellowship in the Arts. She retired as the Laura Carnell Professor of English and Women's Studies at Temple University.

"Sonia Sanchez is known for blending elements of musicality such as blues and jazz into traditional poetic forms," says Joanne Gabbin. "This seminar is only the second living legacy seminar that Furious Flower has offered to educators. Teachers will teach what they know and what inspires them, and Sonia Sanchez is a tremendous source of inspiration. **M**

* Learn more at www.jmu.edu/furiousflower.

'Sonia was at the top of her game.'

— NIKKI GIOVANNI
poet, scholar, educator



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JMU professor of education Allison Kretlow works with young readers at Ressie Jeffries Elementary. See the Admissions Viewbook and Preview covers: www.jmu.edu/MadisonOnline.

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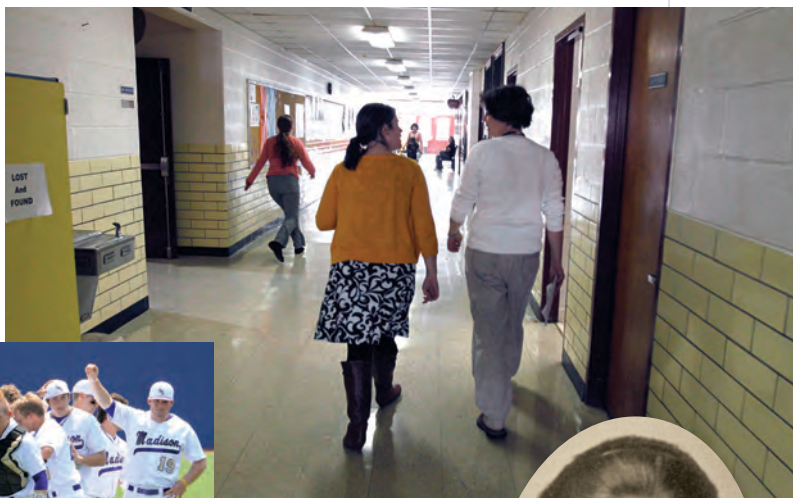
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Madame President

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GET INSPIRED TO BE THE CHANGE

The Be the Change website has stories and videos about students, professors and alumni changing the world.

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Share your Be the Change story at **maddisonmag@jmu.edu**

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Prospective students, alumni, community members, JMU friends: Find it all here. The JMU events calendar, campus map, area lodging and dining. Log on before you roll in to the 'Burg:

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One World

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Go Duuuuuuuuukes! 2011 marks the Dukes' 40th football season. Wait until you see the new Bridgeforth Stadium seating. Got your tickets yet? **PAGE 11**

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Your letters, stories and photos

DINWIDDIE DUKES!

I am an English teacher and the assistant wrestling coach at Dinwiddie High School in Central Virginia. I received my B.A. from JMU in 2008 and a Master's of Arts in Teaching degree in 2009. My fellow alumni and I, who teach at Dinwiddie County High, took a picture with our seniors, who are headed to Harrisonburg and JMU in August. We hope to see this in an upcoming issue!

ANDREW D. WILLIAMS ('08, '09M),
DINWIDDIE HIGH SCHOOL
Richmond, Va.

"PRETTY COOL, DAD" ... INDEED

On a beautiful day in April, I visited JMU with my wife and daughter. I have a daughter in the ninth grade, so my motive was to get her thinking about college and to hear from others what it takes to be admitted into a selective university. By "others" I mean "other than me," since my little girl now thinks I am clueless!

I am a very proud 1981 graduate of JMU, and I currently reside outside of Baltimore in Lutherville, Md. I have been a fairly active alumnus, giving back what I can of time and money to the university I dearly love. Several years ago I helped form the JMU Duke Club's first Baltimore chapter, and I try to stay connected to JMU and my fellow alumni.

At 14, my daughter is relatively young



JMU members of the Class of 2015 from Dinwiddie High School are (back row, l-r): Josh Temple, Erica Revis-Cruz, Patricia Crance, Emily Abernathy and Leah Richardson. Front row (l-r) are JMU Dukes J.P. Culbreath ('91), Dinwiddie principal Randy Johnson ('84) and Andrew Williams ('08, '09M).

to be visiting a college, but I wanted her to experience the same college visit that high-school juniors and seniors experience. Our JMU visit began with all of the high-school kids and their parents assembling in the Festival Ballroom for a presentation. I could not believe how many people were in the ballroom, and I began to think this might be a pretty impersonal experience. Boy was I wrong! We listened to an excellent presentation from the admissions staff and then viewed a video of JMU students discussing what makes JMU so different. After a quick Q&A we were ready for the campus walking tour.

I couldn't help but wonder how in the world this massive crowd would be given a campus tour. It actually was simple. Dozens of JMU students, wearing their



Hopeful Future Duke Kate Rosenberg (left) shows off some JMU gear and **Purple Pride** with dad, **Charles "Chip" Rosenberg** ('81), and mom, **Deborah L. Rosenberg**. The family visited campus in April to take an admissions tour.

purple and gold shirts and name tags, walked down every aisle in the ballroom. These Student Ambassadors are an impressive group. They introduced themselves and let us know their hometowns and majors. We quickly divided into groups of 15 to 20 kids and parents and were off on a tour. We

Keep those letters and story ideas coming! *Madison* welcomes letters in response to magazine content. The staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, length and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send to "22807" *Madison*, 725 S. Mason Street, MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, or email madisonmag@jmu.edu.

I looked at the faces of the parents during the tour and I could tell they were thinking 'I would have no problem with my child attending this school.'

— CHARLES H. "CHIP" ROSENBERG JR. ('81)

stopped along the way to hear about the academic buildings, the residence halls, and other significant points of interest, like Kissing Rock, the Quad and Newman Lake. I couldn't believe how much had changed, but I enjoyed seeing how much remained the same in the Blue-stone area of campus. I was so impressed with the campus that I lived on 30 years ago. Even though the campus has tripled in size since I was a student, it really felt the same. The culture, the experience, the "feel" is hard to describe. It's an esprit de corps that resides in the DNA of the institution — the Madison Experience.

What I found most striking was the vast difference between the young high school kids on the tour and the JMU Student Ambassadors who led us across campus. The difference in years was only three or four, but the difference in maturity was enormous. Most of the high-school kids were sharp enough, but it demonstrated to my wife and I what happens in just a few years in college, especially at a place like JMU. Our Ambassador, a young lady from Richmond, was articulate, funny and clearly enjoyed showing off her university. During the tour, I shared that I was a JMU graduate, and she begged me for stories from back in the day! She couldn't believe it when I told her that everyone used to sit on the

hill behind the student union (Warren Hall) behind Hillcrest. She immediately decided that was an awesome place to sit and wondered why it stopped.

I felt compelled to share our wonderful day visiting JMU, and how proud I am to share the Madison Experience with my wife and daughter. The visit exceeded my expectations and a large part of that is due to an outstanding Student Ambassador. She did an excellent job showing us the campus in a positive way. I looked at the faces of the parents during the tour and I could tell they were thinking "I would have no problem with my child attending this school."

It's often hard to get a 14 year old to be impressed with anything; but after a chili dog at Jess' Quick Lunch, we headed up I-81 toward home. I turned around and asked my daughter what she thought of my alma mater. She thought for a second and replied, "Pretty cool, Dad. I could definitely see myself going to JMU."

CHARLES H. "CHIP"
ROSENBERG JR. ('81)
Lutherville, Md.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Share your letters and feedback with *Madison* by emailing them to madisonmag@jmu.edu; or write to *Madison*, JMU, 725 South Mason Street, MSC 3610, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

{Guest Editor's Note}

Distinguishing academic quality

What truly distinguishes the best colleges is their emphasis on substantive intellectual inquiry. The superb quality of JMU's academic program is a much better kept secret than the renown we have earned for our welcoming and supportive atmosphere. As associate dean of the College of Arts and Letters, I observe both every day. It serves to



remind ourselves — our faculty, students and alumni — how good we really are.

At JMU, students learn by doing. Over the years, our undergraduates have established a national reputation for outstanding research, presenting

their findings at local, regional, national and international professional conferences. Their research begins in classes, where students are carefully mentored by engaged and well-credentialed faculty members.

JMU also hosts one of the largest student conferences on the East Coast. During 2011 Mad-RUSH (Madison Research by Undergraduates in the Social Sciences and Humanities), students presented their research following the same professional methodologies as keynote presenter Matthew Wasniewski ('91, '94M), historian of the United States House of Representatives. Student presenters were exhilarated to discover that they were indeed experts on their chosen topics. Professors thought their papers compared favorably with those presented at top professional conferences.

Student essays illuminate the spirit of curiosity, inquiry, creativity and hard work that characterize undergraduate research at JMU across all the disciplines. They demonstrate outstanding skills in critical thinking, writing and oral communication. Some wags may argue that few graduates will spend hours discussing Milton, the nature of good or the causes of the French Revolution around the water cooler. However, the skills and knowledge our researchers accrue enable them to identify and grapple effectively with the complexities of the big questions that face each generation. Intellectual dexterity like this is invaluable throughout life.

— J. CHRIS ARNDT, *associate dean*
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Colleen Callery ('11) completed an editorial internship with *Madison* during fall semester 2010. She graduated in May with a double major in media arts and design (corporate communications) and English. As an undergraduate, Callery wrote for *The Breeze* and *Bluestone*, taught English classes at Skyline Literacy, and helped found and served as the assistant editor for an on campus music magazine, *Off the Record*. This summer she interned with the Women's Institute for the Freedom of the Press in Washington, D.C., and for Palari Publishing in Richmond. She also served as a counselor for the JMU summer 2011 Furious Flower Poetry Camp. In this issue she profiles JMU Parents Council Co-chairs Craig and Libby Fritsche ('11P).



Erin N. Frye ('07) shares her One World experience on Page 38. She has traveled twice to Ghana to teach English, music, soccer and other skills to orphans at the Hohoe Christian Orphanage. Frye is director of recruitment at Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Richmond & Tri-Cities area of Virginia. She earned a B.A. in communications with a concentration in public relations and is a member of the Richmond JMU Alumni Chapter. She is a Big Sister through BBBS, and sings and plays guitar in a band, Brave Bellwether, based in Richmond. At JMU, Frye was a member of the *a cappella* group Note-oriety for three years.

James Carter joined the JMU Marketing Office as a web developer in fall 2010. He previously worked in the JMU Office of Advancement Gifts and Records as a database specialist. In his new role, Carter helps publish the best *Madison* stories on the JMU homepage and the Be the Change stories site at www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories.shtml. Carter is a native of Bath, England, and he enjoys cycling and photography. He is completing his bachelor's of independent study in JMU's College of Arts and Letters. He and his wife have two daughters, Eleanor and Eve, and he has a son, Joshua.



IRWIN ('06) AND CALLERY ('11) PHOTOGRAPHS BY KATHY LAM; ANDERSON ('93, '02M) AND CARTER BY DIANE ELLIOTT ('00)

What unites us and pushes us to evolve

Embracing JMU traditions, value and change

Each summer at James Madison University, I am reminded of the confluence of tradition and progress that is our hallmark. A few weeks ago, we welcomed the Class of 2011 as our newest Madison alumni. And, we just welcomed the Class of 2015 as our next class of JMU freshmen.

We are especially adept at striking the right balance of tradition and progress at JMU. This balance is a dynamic one, undergoing constant refinement, never still. What unites us and pushes us to evolve is the Madison Experience, which is founded on certain enduring values.

Foremost among them is our focus on the student. Since our founding and right up to the present, our alumni report that their professors challenged them academically and engaged them personally. This quality is impressive for a university of our scope and size, and one that we consciously and conscientiously nurture. Our professors — serious scholars who are advancing their disciplines with their own research — teach students in the classroom and are willing to continue one-on-one in even deeper discussion. They offer myriad opportunities for meaningful undergraduate research and support student initiative.

Directly connected to our focus on the student is another deep-rooted value — JMU's commitment to the world around us. Taken together, these values spur our innovative spirit. At the most basic level, they underscore that our academic programs have not stood still. Alumni who graduated several decades ago wouldn't recognize the biotechnology lab or materials lab of today. Our academic leaders continually anticipate societal change and transform programs to best prepare our students and to empower them to make life better for themselves and others. Alumni say regularly that they are amazed at the growth and development of campus that occurs in our ongoing endeavor. We are so accustomed to change that change itself is a revered tradition.

As if to emphasize the point, an enlarged Bridgeforth Stadium opens anew this fall increasing our crowd capacity to 25,000 seats. The newly renovated Wayland Hall also opens with a new mission as an arts learning community. Students from the College of Visual and Performing Arts will live, work and learn together in a space designed to deepen their arts education. Wayland is equipped with residence, performance, exhibition and classroom spaces and is our first building to be retrofitted with a highly efficient geothermal heating and cooling system. This legacy bluestone building was designed to be the first Platinum LEED certified residence hall renovation in the country, another symbol of the merger of past and future.

We will manage to uphold our record of having a crane on campus again this year. Construction crews head next to Duke Hall, built in 1967 to house our School of Art, Design and Art History.



"Embracing both longstanding traditions and a willingness to evolve sets JMU apart," says JMU President Linwood H. Rose.

Duke will undergo extensive remodeling in the spring. This next phase of our focus on the arts follows a heralded first year of offerings in the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has also approved planning funds for the first phase of renovation of what we're calling the North Campus, which comprises the old Rockingham Memorial Hospital facilities. One of the first tenants of the North Campus will be the Student Success Center, which is already a national model for its proactive focus on helping students get the most out of their Madison Experience. Its new incarnation will allow

us to bring together under one roof our essential student services and activities, from freshman Orientation to the Learning Resource Center to Career and Academic Planning, offering a full lifecycle of student enrichment. Student Success is one of the programs that makes the Madison Experience immediately recognizable to students and alumni.

Our fusion of past and present will be obvious too this fall as we celebrate 100 years of Madison alumni at Homecoming. It has been a century since our first Madison graduate went into the world to make a difference. We have reached the point where three and four generations of families have attended JMU. I am seeing how the Madison connection and our concept of tradition and change transcends generations. I hope to see you at Homecoming Sept. 30–Oct. 2 and celebrate this alumni centennial with you.

It is true that traditions and values endure only insofar as we make them. War. Depression. Social upheaval. During America's most recent economic downturn, the university and donors came together to help students in sudden dire financial straits to continue their JMU educations. As you will read in this issue's Special Report, we are transforming that successful emergency fundraising effort into a permanent program called Madison Forever. Someday, the students you helped will, like their predecessors who gave so generously, play a significant role in the life of Madison.

Finally, as I remind you that this issue of *Madison* is also our student recruitment issue, I hope I have made it clear that you are the most important touchstone in our tradition. Please continue the Madison Experience by passing on your copy of *Madison* to a worthy high-school student. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linwood H. Rose".

LINWOOD H. ROSE
President, James Madison University

[Be The Change]

Senior Convocation: Assembly for action

JMU students intern for speaker's world-changing nonprofit

By GABRIELLE PICCININNI ('11)

JMU's Class of 2011 — 2,910 strong — got one more JMU-style “Be the Change” message during Senior Convocation on May 5. Laren Poole, filmmaker, humanitarian and co-founder of Invisible Children, challenged JMU graduates to live a life of action. “Our generation can see injustice like never before,” he told seniors. “We are connected to people all over the world who are the same age, who listen to the same music, like the same things and share the same Internet. This connection demands action. Those who think they can change the world are the ones who do,” he added.

Poole and two friends founded Invisible Children after traveling to Uganda in 2003 to film a documentary on the plight of children from the war-torn country. For more than two decades, the Lord's Resistance Army killed tens of thousands of people in northern Uganda, abducted thousands of children to serve as soldiers and slaves, and displaced more than 1 million Ugandans.

Determined to expose the crisis, Poole and his friends created the documentary film *Invisible Children: Rough Cut* to focus on the plight of the children and child soldiers. Today, the nonprofit organization uses the power of media to transform apathy into activism. Through the organization's “Roadie” internship program, volunteers tour the world visiting churches, schools, colleges and universities to share the documentary and to inspire others to help end war.

Poole urged JMU's soon-to-be graduates to take positive action for the world. “Don't sit on that brilliant education. There is always more to learn. I beg you to take action,” he said.

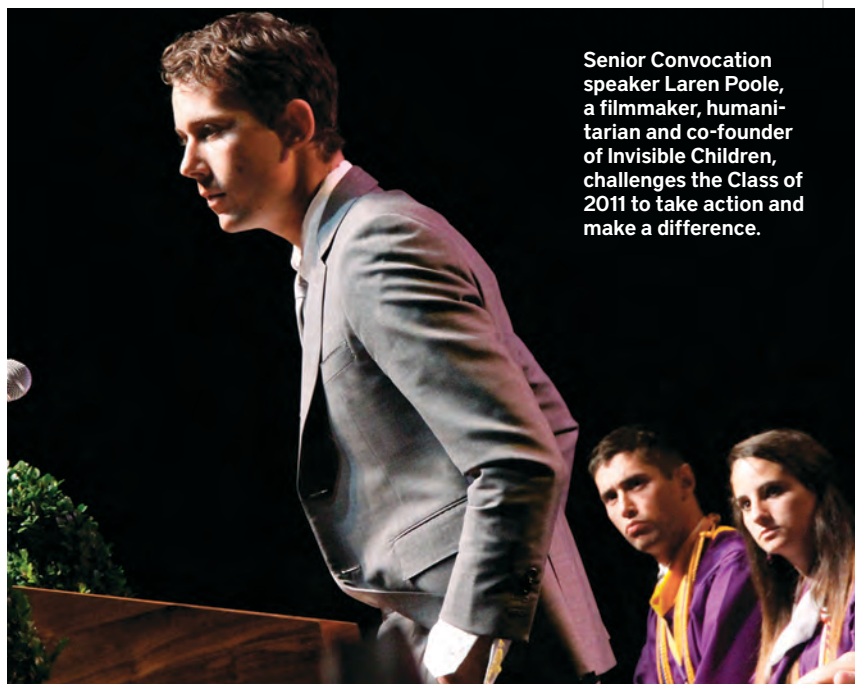
Long before Poole set foot on campus, two JMU students accepted the Invisible Children organization's call to action. Annie Long ('12), a School of Media Arts and Design and Spanish double major, is

‘Those who think they can change the world are the ones who do.’

— LAREN POOLE,
co-founder of Invisible Children



Invisible Children “Roadies” taking some time out for fun include, (top row, l-r) Dan Krozner, Shane McNeeley, Elise Benusa ('13), and Annie Long ('12). Front row (l-r) are Aol “Irene” and Akello “Monica,” and Ashley Platé, a teacher and Florida native who housed the team and treated the group to a Disney World trip.



Senior Convocation speaker Laren Poole, a filmmaker, humanitarian and co-founder of Invisible Children, challenges the Class of 2011 to take action and make a difference.

a three-time IC Roadie veteran. She also served as an Invisible Children team leader in fall 2010. Elise Benusa ('13), a global justice major with a minor in African studies and humanitarian affairs, also toured in 2010 and was assigned to Long's team.

Two of Long's and Benusa's 2010 teammates — Aol “Irene” and Akello “Monica” — are natives of Northern Uganda. Both currently work for Invisible Children through its Legacy Scholarship Program.

Benusa first heard Long talk about the Invisible Children organization during a general education government class they shared. “Everyone [at JMU] is so involved and into so many causes, and we are all one force trying to change the world,” she says. “It was JMU's go-getter attitude that attracted me to come here.”

Both Long and Benusa remain actively involved with the JMU Invisible Children Chapter, and they welcomed an IC Roadie team that visited campus in March.

“Invisible Children staff told me that my individual actions can make a direct impact, and I believed them,” says Long. During her assignment as a team leader, Long coordinated her team's two-and-a-half

month journey and 92 event presentations. The team also promoted Invisible Children's fundraising program, Schools for Schools, in which American schools compete to raise money for partner schools in Uganda. JMU won the book drive portion of the competition, which gave Benusa, co-president of the JMU Invisible Children Chapter, the opportunity to travel to Uganda on an IC-sponsored trip.

Choosing to take time off from school to participate in the Roadie internship program was a big decision, but a decision Long and Benusa agree has benefited their Madison Experience. "Going on the road really allowed me to appreciate my college education and fueled my passion to learn and grow more," says Benusa.

Long agrees, "I now realize how privileged I am. I don't think I would appreciate school the way I do now had I not worked for Invisible Children." **M**

* Learn more at www.invisiblechildren.com/



Class of 2011 by the numbers

2,910	bachelor's degrees
461	master's degrees
10	doctoral degrees
6	college ceremonies
64	nurses pinned
22	ROTC cadets commissioned
3,381	new JMU alumni



[Phi Kappa Phi]

Germany in summer, graduate school in fall

Andrew Pham wins Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship

After spending the summer in Germany through a JMU Study Abroad program, Andrew T. Pham ('11) will have a good start on his master's career. The piano performance/music composition major won a \$5,000 Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship.

Andrew T. Pham ('11), a piano performance/music composition major, won a 2011 Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship and \$5,000 award. Each year, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi awards 57 fellowships to top scholars across the United States.

During his studies at JMU, Pham racked up many academic laurels. He twice won first prize in JMU's Write On! Academic Writing Contest. The JMU School of Music faculty also awarded him the prestigious Presser Scholarship, an award given to the outstanding junior in the School of Music. Pham is currently completing a Master's of Music

degree at Indiana University. "My JMU piano professor studied at Indiana University, and he helped me throughout my graduate application and audition process," says Pham, who spent the summer in Freiberg, Germany, in JMU's summer music program. Pham studied piano from May 15 to July 4 accompanying opera performances, studying German Lieder (art songs for voice and piano) by composer Hugo Wolf, and studying the German language. "I really enjoyed learning French and Vietnamese, so I had a blast trying to decipher German," says Pham. **M**

* Read more about Pham at www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/andrewPham.shtml.

[No. 1]

U.S. News ranks JMU tops

U.S. News & World Report's 2010 edition of its "Best Colleges" guidebook ranks JMU as the No. 1 public regional university in the South. JMU has held the spot for 17 consecutive years. Among the factors that figured into Madison's favorable ranking are JMU's 92 per-

cent average freshman retention rate, 81 percent average graduation rate, 16/1 student/faculty ratio and 86 percent of faculty who are full time. JMU's freshman retention and graduation rates are both among the highest for schools in the complete *U.S. News* rankings report.

**U.S. News has
ranked JMU No. 1
for 17 years.**

A total of 572 universities are included in the Best Regional Universities category of the magazine's rankings. Institutions in the category provide a full range of undergraduate majors and master's programs and few, if any, doctoral programs. JMU offers doctoral programs in assessment and measurement, clinical audiology, communication sciences and disorders, music, psychology and strategic leadership. **M**

[International Research]

Researching a deadly disease with leading research firm

JMU and SRI ink formal partnership

BY ALEX SHARP ('11)

Tina Safavie ('11) has been fascinated by viruses since her sophomore year of high school. This year, the biology major got hands-on experience working with a little-known tropical virus at one of the premier biotech companies in the world — SRI International.

JMU helped woo SRI International to the Shenandoah Valley nearly four years ago, and this summer the university and SRI signed an agreement that, among other things, will provide JMU faculty and students research opportunities at SRI while affording SRI employees access to JMU labs and other resources.

Safavie's experience at SRI included adding dengue virus to "secret" compounds synthesized by SRI, and then adding that mixture to African green monkey kidney cells to check for inhibition of the infection. An effective compound exhibits little to no growth of infection.

The World Health Organization states that about 2.5 billion people are at risk of contracting mosquito-borne dengue fever, and that about 500,000 are hospitalized every year for the more dangerous dengue hemorrhagic fever. And that is a big problem since there is no effective treatment for the illness.

"There are no antivirals and there are no vaccines," says Safavie, who worked with a research team seeking an antidote for dengue fever at SRI's Center

Tina Safavie ('11) hopes her hands-on research will help find a vaccine that prevents the transmission of the sometimes-fatal dengue virus.



for Advanced Drug Research. Safavie worked closely with SRI virologists to screen various compounds for their anti-viral effects on the sometimes-fatal virus.

Symptoms of an initial infection are similar to influenza and include high fever, headaches, joint pain and rash. People who are infected a second time can contract dengue hemorrhagic fever, a potentially fatal complication that involves a high fever that lasts from two to seven days and may be followed by circulatory failure, which causes the body temperature to drop dramatically and the patient to suffer shock syndrome.

Most cases of dengue fever and DHF occur in under-developed

tropical nations, says Krishna Kodukula, director of SRI's Center for Advanced Drug Research and leader of the dengue project. The disease is rare in the United States, but as global temperatures increase and the mosquito breeding range broadens, he thinks there will be more infections and a larger risk area. "We feel that more outbreaks will occur in the U.S.," Kodukula says, noting that this summer about 1,000 people in Key West, Fla., were diagnosed with dengue fever.

Safavie first learned of dengue — and the internship offered by SRI — in a global infectious diseases class taught by JMU biology professors Chris Lantz and Amanda Biesecker. Lantz

Tina Safavie ('11) spent part of her senior year researching a tropical virus with premier researchers at SRI International in Harrisonburg.

has worked directly with SRI since 2007. "Students who take this course are very good candidates to move into internships at SRI," Lantz says of the three-credit biology class that explores six global diseases — malaria, AIDs, tuberculosis, cholera and little-known tropical diseases leishmaniasis and dengue fever.

DHF, which is now endemic in more than 100 countries, qualifies as a major disease. The World Health Organization reports that "not only is the number of cases increasing as the disease is spreading to new areas, but explosive outbreaks are occurring." An outbreak in Venezuela in 2007 involved more than 80,000 cases of dengue fever, 6,000 of which were DHF, the agency reported.

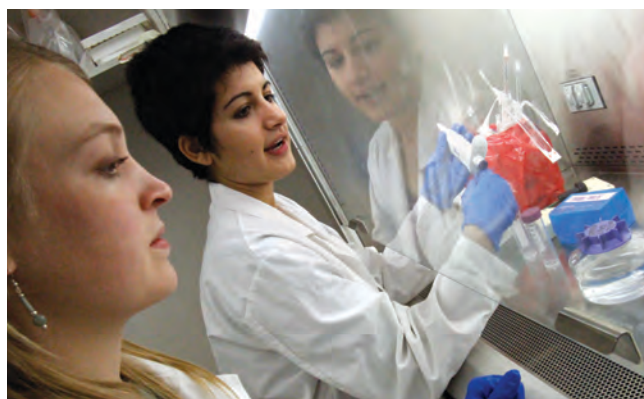
Which gives some urgency to the project at SRI. The goal is to create an effective anti-virus, and ideally, a vaccine that prevents the transmission of dengue.

"I always knew that I was into biology, because with biology, you can explain life," Safavie says. "And sometimes you can also save lives." ■

* Read more about Safavie's research at www.jmu.edu/news/madisonscholar/2010_SRI_Intern.shtml

'I always knew that I was into biology, because with biology, you can explain life. And sometimes you can also save lives.'

— TINA SAFAVIE ('11), *biology major*



By *the* numbers

40 2011 marks the 40th season of JMU football. The first football game was played on Oct. 7, 1972, on the practice field near Godwin Hall. Currently undergoing a major expansion, Bridgeforth Stadium/Showker Field was built in 1975.



Got your tickets yet? With a facelift and 25,000 seats, Bridgeforth Stadium is one of the premier venues in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision, Div. I-AA.

4.11.11 Thousands of JMU students participated in the inaugural "Big Event" on April 11 — a day to make a positive impact on the community. Among the numerous projects, 40 students joined the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition to clean up the Rocktown Trails in Harrisonburg's Hillendale Park.



"The Big Event was a success for both JMU and the Harrisonburg community," says Thomas Jenkins, owner of Shenandoah Bicycle and a member of the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition.

15 The JMU Lifelong Learning Institute celebrates its 15th anniversary in 2011.
* www.jmu.edu/socwork/lli

100 Happy 100th birthday to JMU alumni. The first 20 alumnae graduated in 1911 and received alumnae pins featuring the Harrisonburg Normal School seal. The Alumnae Association (formed in 1911) heralded Commencement in the early years. The first Homecomings were held on Commencement weekend, and the first meal served in Harrison Hall was the alumnae banquet in 1915.



As part of the 1911 Commencement exercises, the first graduates organized the Harrisonburg Normal School Alumnae Association and elected Minnie Diedrich ('11) as president.

21 JMU offers 21 summer camps, workshops and arboretum events for area elementary, middle and high-school students. These activities cover wide interests including art, baseball, computers and technology, football, lacrosse, music, marching band, color guard, nonviolence, physics, poetry, reading, soccer and theater.



JMU art students share their skills and talents with local elementary students and budding artists.



22,391 Professor Emeritus of Psychology Bijan Saadatmand, aka "Uncle Bijan," says that in his four decades of teaching he has taught 22,391 students. "I've kept records since I started as a teaching assistant in 1967," he told the magazine staff after being featured in the Professors You



Love column in the Spring/Summer 2011 issue of *Madison*.
* www.jmu.edu/professors/youlove

12 In 1789, James Madison was elected to the First Federal Congress, where he proposed 12 amendments (the Bill of Rights) to the U.S. Constitution. The same year, Madison wrote President George Washington's inaugural address.

JMU eponym, President James Madison proposed the first 12 amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1789.



2012 JMU's new biosciences building, Centennial Hall, will open in 2012. Located between the East Campus Library and the Physics/Chemistry Building, the research and teaching intensive space will include a green house, a green roof, outdoor teaching spaces and a state-of-the-art microscopy lab.



[Intramural Action]

Sinking your battleship

JMU intramural activities offer something for everyone

By PAULA POLGLASE ('92, '96M)

Marc Lonett estimates that he played on more than 80 intramural teams in his four years at JMU. Although floor hockey is his favorite, he's tried basketball, flag football, field hockey, volleyball and others. "Inner tube water polo — that was an experience," says Lonett ('11).

Like many JMU students, Lonett says he was used to being very active in high-school sports. He started playing JMU intramurals his freshman year when he joined a flag football team organized by his hallmates. "It was a great way to get to know them," he recalls.

Nearly 30 percent of JMU students participate in intramurals, according to Aaron Combs, University Recreation's coordinator of intramural sports and special events. Intramurals are a great choice for students who crave the fun and competitive nature of high-school sports, but not the time commitment that a varsity or a club sport requires. "Intramurals promote activity, a social lifestyle and wellness," says Combs. "Plus, you meet a ton of people."

Casey Zeiders ('11) got involved when Lonett invited him to play during freshman year. "I heard about intramurals but wasn't positive how to get involved. After Marc took me to one game I was hooked," says Zeiders. "I immediately started playing on as many teams as possible. I would even show up to the fields without a team and just ask people if they needed an extra player."

According to Combs, this past academic year 171 teams registered for basketball, 150 for



Canoes full of JMU students fight to sink each others' "battleships" in the UREC pool during one of many UREC-sponsored intramural events in 2010-11.

outdoor soccer and 135 for flag football. Each sport is played for five to six weeks. Teams can be single gender or coed and are often formed by groups of friends, hallmates or members of student academic and social clubs. Three JMU intramural

leagues offer beginner, intermediate and high levels of competition, although students are quick to point out that all intramurals are competitive. "Everybody wants to win on every single night, so students really leave it all out there," says Zeiders.

'Nearly 30 percent of JMU students participate in intramurals.'

— AARON COMBS, University Recreation's coordinator of intramural sports and special events



An aerial view of University Park on June 14. Located on Neff Avenue and Port Republic Road, the site expands JMU athletics venues.

Combs says he is always eager to introduce new sports. Dodgeball, field hockey, whiffle ball and street hockey are popular new offerings. With the addition of University Park on Port Republic Road in March 2012, UREC will expand its field capacity and be able to offer more students the opportunity to participate in activities like intramurals.

UREC special events like Big Pink Volleyball, a tournament to support breast cancer awareness; a cornhole tournament; and the Dukes 5K are also rising in popularity. One of the most successful events of the year was Battleship, a game played in the UREC pool by teams of students in canoes trying to sink each others' "battleships."

When it comes to intramurals, Lonett advises students to "try them all. In my four years at JMU, I have played almost every intramural available. Even if I didn't have much experience with the sport, I still had a lot of fun trying something new." M

* Learn more at www.jmu.edu/recreation/Programs/IntramuralSports/

Connections

Get connected

JMU has more than 22,865 Facebook fans, 4,256 Twitter followers, 7,668 LinkedIn members and more than 41,170 YouTube channel views.

JMU Flickr pool

Been back in the 'Burg lately? Check out the very best of JMU's Flickr pool. Comment or upload your photos.

* www.flickr.com/groups/1132487@N22/pool/

Are you plugged in?

**VISIT
JMU
VIA:**

- * www.facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity
- * www.twitter.com/JMU
- * www.youtube.com/DukeDogTV
- * www.linkedin.com (search JMU Alumni Association under "groups")
- * <http://jmubethechange.wordpress.com/>
- * <http://foursquare.com/jmu>

A world of opportunity

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



Check out "Coming into Focus" on the JMU Flickr pool for top JMU images. Fountain photograph by Sarah Derr ('11); and the Quad (below) by Kathy Lam.



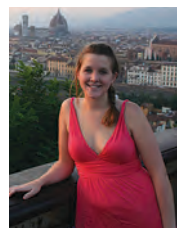
Be the Change blog How is JMU's extraordinary brand of change shaping a new future around the world? Log on and chime in. * <http://jmubethechange.wordpress.com/>

A Madison Experience in Italy Studio art major Angel America Elza ('10) lived, studied and soaked up Italian culture through the Semester in Florence Study Abroad program. She shares hundreds of photographs in her blog. * www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/my-semester-in-Florence.shtml

The Breeze *The Breeze*, the award-winning student newspaper at JMU, was a finalist as the best non-daily newspaper in the region in the 2010 Society of Professional Journalists annual competition. With a circulation of 9,500, *The Breeze* is published Mondays and Thursdays during the academic year. * www.breezejmu.org/

Facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity

Tell us about your Madison Experience and plug into other JMU conversations like Orientation and football season. * facebook.com/jamesmadisonuniversity



Angel Elza ('10) spent a semester in Florence through JMU Study Abroad. She shares hundreds of images online.

ONLINE

- * JMU's front door: www.jmu.edu
- * Everything alumni: www.jmu.edu/alumni/
- * The Be the Change blog: <http://jmubethechange.wordpress.com/>
- * The Newsroom and JMU Public Affairs: www.jmu.edu/news/
- * Madison Channel and JMU event videos: <http://media.jmu.edu/>

HEADLINES + HIGHLIGHTS

- * *Brightening the Lights of Madison* and the JMU Online Community: www.jmu.edu/alumni/publications/
- * *The Family Connection* for JMU parents: www.jmu.edu/parents/Parent_Communication.shtml

TELEVISION

- * WVPT: Students intern at the PBS affiliate for central Virginia, Shenandoah Valley and northeastern West Virginia, (540) 434-5391: www.wvpt.net

RADIO

- * www.wxjm.org: FM 88.7 Student programming, news, talk and music
- * AM 1610: Tune in when you roll in
- * WMRA: <http://wmra.org/> NPR, local news and programs. WMRA, WMRY, WMRL, WMLU at FM stations: 90.7, 103.5, 89.9 and 91.3

PRINT

- * *Madison*, the JMU magazine, and MadisonOnline: www.jmu.edu/MadisonOnline/. Story ideas: e-mail madisonmag@jmu.edu
- * *The Breeze*, semi-weekly student newspaper: www.breezejmu.org/
- More student publications at: <http://smad.jmu.edu/>

SPORTS

- * www.JMUSports.com JMU sports action and live video in the *MadiZONE* and *Pawprint*: Duke Club Newsletter, (540) 568-6164

[Parents Council]

A purple and gold reign

Craig and Libby Fritsche serve JMU Parents Council

By COLLEEN CALLERY ('11)

“Craig and Libby Fritsche have demonstrated their excitement about being a part of the Madison family from day one. This excitement and enthusiasm for JMU carried over into their interaction with parents-at-large, as well as JMU Parents Council members,” says Sherry King, director of JMU Parent Relations.

As chairs of the JMU Parents Council during the 2010–11 academic year, Craig ('11P) and Libby Fritsche ('11P) worked with other council members to foster better relationships between the university and parents of JMU students. “After we became Parents Council members, we found the positive attitudes throughout the university community to be almost infectious,” says Libby.

‘Involvement with the Parents Council gives parents a unique opportunity to relate to their son or daughter on a new level – staying involved without being helicopter parents.’ — LIBBY FRITSCHÉ ('11P)

Although not JMU alumni, the Fritsches enjoy JMU campus life, participating in First-Year Send Off events, CHOICES admissions days, Family Weekend and many football games. Their impact stretches beyond social events. The council plays an important role in the development of the mutually beneficial relationship among parents, prospective students and the university. Providing program ideas for the Division of University Advancement to benefit parents, donating annually to the Parents Council Endowed Scholarship fund, and publishing *The Madison Family Handbook* are just a few ways the council supports current and future JMU families.

“Families can feel out of the loop about services or procedures at the university,” explains Craig. “The Parent Relations office provides information to parents and hears from parents who may have concerns about services for their student.”

The Fritsches have served on the Parents Council for



JMU Parents Council Chair Craig Fritsche ('11P) enjoys a Godwin Field tailgate with daughters, Virginia (left) and Olivia Fritsche ('11).



Craig and Libby Fritsche ('11P) served on the JMU Parents Council for four years and chaired the council in 2010-11.

four years, one as chairs. They joined the council when their daughter Olivia ('11) was a freshman. The public administration major graduated in May and is headed to law school.

“Craig and Libby are true leaders at heart,” says King. “They are dedicated to the JMU and Parents Council missions, and they are creative and open minded. They both display an energizing sense of humor that always fosters good camaraderie.”

The Fritsches say they were initially impressed by their first campus tour with Olivia. “The commitment to student learning and achievement is evident at every level at JMU,” says Libby. “Involvement with the

Parents Council gives parents a unique opportunity to relate to their son or daughter on a new level — staying involved without being helicopter parents and hovering over every move.”

The Fritsches also enjoy JMU football games. “There is nothing more fun than a day that starts with a tailgate and ends with a win,” adds Libby. “All JMU parents, mark your calendars and start making your plans now for Family Weekend 2011 on Oct. 14-16. You don’t want to miss any of the family fun.”

During their purple and gold reign as co-chairs, the Fritsches embodied every aspect of the Madison Experience. As King notes, “I have never seen two people enjoy themselves as much as Craig and Libby do when they are on campus assisting or attending a JMU event. They find every excuse to come back to campus. Although both are graduates of George Mason University, they bleed purple and gold.”

This summer the Fritsches passed the Parents Council chair duties onto Gregory ('75 '12P) and Linda Cross ('77, '12P) of Virginia Beach. Their daughter Rachel is a member of the Class of 2012. ■

* Learn more about JMU Parents Council and Family Weekend at www.jmu.edu/parents.

MADISON FOREVER

News headlines define the challenges facing the next generation — economic instability, ethical shortcomings, environmental tragedies. JMU prepares students to face these very issues, but they cannot stand alone in uncertain times. Many students face unexpected challenges that threaten their ability to stay in college.

Your gifts will help. Madison Forever gifts help a student whose parent has lost a job or help the financial aid office supplement a grant that’s been cut.

EVERY GIFT MATTERS. Make a difference and help these students stay MADISON, FOREVER.

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Learn more at www.jmu.edu/MadisonForever

[Campus View]

Virtually everything JMU

New “Experience JMU” website’s virtual tour brings JMU to your browser By AMELIA WOOD ('13) WITH BILL GENTRY

Fifteen imaginative JMU students. One innovative professor. A huge hands-on learning project. One semester. Free of charge. The result? A virtual mixture that gives prospective JMU students and their parents a marvelous view of the Madison Experience that they can take in from anywhere.

From academics and student life to campus living and dining, prospective students and parents can see all of this and more on the new “Experience JMU” website at <http://visitjmu.com>.

School of Media Arts and Design professor Steve Anderson and his 400-level Converged Media Lab seniors put together the website for the JMU Office of Admissions. “Building a new website complete with an interactive 3D map of JMU campus provided students with a perfect opportunity to work together,” says Anderson.

The website includes 3D images and a “virtual campus tour,” constructed and maintained on a JMU server by Anderson and his class. Much like Google Earth, the JMU

virtual tour allows prospective students and parents to “visit” anywhere on campus and view the buildings and surrounding areas in 3D. “It’s like you’re standing right on campus,” adds Anderson.

With Anderson’s supervision, students used a program called Google SketchUp to construct the database of JMU buildings. After learning how to manipulate the program, students spent hours measuring buildings and taking hundreds of images to make the buildings look just right when they reconstructed them.

“I think my semester work log contained about four pages of detailed tasks amounting to about 70 hours, and that’s not counting the two and a half hours a week of class time,” says Dean Fleyzor ('11), co-project manager of the student team.

In addition to the virtual tour project, the students combined the skills they have accumulated in the SMAD converged media

program to build the rest of the website without Anderson’s help. Fleyzor and his co-project manager, Alyssa Barton ('11), spent the first month of the project planning and setting goals. They detailed the types of pictures, video, text and web elements needed to include on each Web page.

The students spent September and October capturing raw footage for work on the Web programming portions. This included capturing panoramic views of popular campus areas. After assisting in the development of the initial project ideas, Barton focused more on writing content and working with the photo team headed by senior David Casterline ('11), while Fleyzor’s interest lay in the Web development portion. The project provided more than hands-on learning and senior project work for both Barton and Fleyzor. “I realized how important it is to build relationships with peers,” says Barton. “I hope to use this experience when working with future clients and colleagues.”

Experience JMU is just one of an array of projects done by professor and student teams from multiple disciplines and academic areas — in conjunction with the

‘I hope to use this experience when working with future clients and colleagues.’

— ALYSSA BARTON ('11)

JMU Center for Instructional Technology — using the Google Earth plug-in to create the university-wide project “Google Earth & Geospatial Projects on the Shenandoah Valley.” To show how the geospatial technology can be used in and out of the classroom, faculty members unveiled several projects including an interactive geologic map of the central Shenandoah Valley, a series of historical maps of the City of Harrisonburg and a look at some of the travels of President James Madison.

Anderson is proud of his students for their organization and efforts. “They completed the website in one semester and finished with great success.” ■

*** Take a virtual tour of JMU at <http://visitjmu.com>. Get a sneak peek of the campus sites you want to see during Family Weekend Oct. 14-16.**



At <http://visitjmu.com/>, you will find amazing photography; informative video clips; and detailed sections for student life, academics, campus living; and the most impressive piece, a virtual campus tour.



Alyssa Barton ('10), who wrote content for the student-created “Experience JMU” website, says the project has been “a huge defining moment in my Madison Experience.”



Can independence be engineered?

Engineering students build a bike to help local teen's mobility needs BY AUSTIN FARINHOLT ('11)

Born with cerebral palsy, 16-year-old Ricky Forgey needs a cane for standing and walking. He must also think about the steps he takes for his muscles to respond properly.

Riding a bicycle may sound like an impossible task, but with the help of some JMU engineering students, Forgey will be more active and independent while pedaling around his hometown of Bridgewater, Va., later this year.

The engineering students recently presented Forgey with six prototypes of bicycles they designed for someone with limited mobility. Forgey, a high-school junior, has the spastic diplegic form of cerebral palsy, which mostly affects his legs. He recently tested each bicycle and provided feedback that will be used to create a final design.

While the engineering students help a member of the local community, they are getting a good dose of real-world engineering experience, says engineering professor Robert Nagel. "We want the students to learn about interfacing and working with a customer and using the needs to inform the design process."

Students learned about Forgey by observing him work out with physical therapy students in Godwin Hall. Forgey works with graduate students in the kinesiology department twice a week to try and gain more control of his muscles. Greg Tidd ('11M), one of the graduate students working with Forgey, says he has noticed an improvement in Forgey's strength and hopes the bike will increase Forgey's fitness levels. "When we started, Ricky seemed very uncomfortable lift-

ing weights, but now is able to keep a good pace while lifting and really gets a good workout," says Tidd.

Engineering junior Richard Arena ('13) says he saw Forgey's knees bump into each other during the workouts, so his team designed a recumbent-style bike with plenty of open space for his legs. Several of the designs allow for adjustments as Forgey grows.

This is the second time students in Engineering 231 (fall semester) and Engineering 232 (spring semester) have designed and built a bicycle for someone with cerebral palsy. The 2010 client was JMU kinesiology professor Tom Moran, who received the final version of his bike this semester. Moran introduced Forgey to the engineering students. Forgey has been a participant in Moran's Overcoming Barriers Program.

Nagel and his engineering students will continue to work with Moran to identify new clients. While the projects will be similar, there will be differences based on client needs. The National Science Foundation has awarded grants to engineering design professors Eric Pappas and Olga Pierrakos for future projects.

Forgey will receive his finished bicycle after the modifications are made to the prototypes and he chooses a favorite design. **MI**

* Watch a video about this project at www.jmu.edu/news/madison_scholar/2011EngineeringBicycle.shtml.

Ricky Forgey of Bridgewater tries out a prototype bicycle designed by JMU engineering students. Born with cerebral palsy, the 16-year-old needs a cane for standing and walking. The bike will help Forgey gain independence and mobility.

Volatility: The new normal

JMU creates an investment strategy to keep students Madison forever BY ANDY PERRINE ('86)

Disaster struck suddenly for the usually self-reliant Anna Young ('10). As her parents divorced and her dad's brand new business waned on the rocky economy, Anna was still able to pay her rent and all her bills. She did it by working for *The Breeze* and freelance photography gigs. It was tight, but she made it work. Then, during the summer before her senior year, Anna ripped her knee to shreds — torn ACL, meniscus, even a broken femur. Lacking enough mobility to do freelance work, Anna's job at *The Breeze* was not enough to support her. Suddenly it looked as if graduating from Madison might slip away.

For Ryan Bixler ('11), a College of Business major from Reisterstown, Md., the challenge crept in much more gradually. An undetected strain of mold at the new office began to affect his father's health. The sickness progressed just as the economy faltered. His father's clients stopped paying on time. Some stopped paying altogether. Ryan's hopes to finish his accounting major dimmed as his dad's health and business faded.

Hundreds of similar stories tumbled into the JMU Office of Financial Aid during the spring and summer of 2009. "It was gut-wrenching," says Brad Barnett, associate director of the office. "In all my years working in financial aid, I have never heard so many stories of typical family struggles made far worse by the terrible economy."

Brad knew he had to do something. "During late summer 2009 JMU launched an emergency financial aid fundraising campaign named Madison For Keeps. We weren't sure how it would work,

'We had no other way to pay for the spring semester other than turning to Madison for Keeps.'

— ANNA YOUNG ('10)



"My family had no other way to pay for my senior spring semester other than turning to Madison for Keeps," says Anna Young ('10) of Manassas, Va., (front row, blue shirt). Young was a *Breeze* editor, *Curio* writer and four-year participant in the student "PictureIt! JMU" project (group above). Young won third place in the 2010 Society of Professional Journalist's student awards "Non-Fiction Magazine Article" category for a *Curio* magazine feature.

but we had high hopes." Brad was surprised by the response. "It was unreal. By the semester break, 3,000 alumni and friends of JMU made gifts totaling more than \$350,000 to Madison for Keeps. I couldn't believe it."

For Anna, it was a godsend. "We had no other way to pay for the spring semester other than turning to Madison for Keeps," she says. Also unsure of his prospects, Ryan Bixler recalls, "My only other option to obtain the financial capital needed to stay at JMU would have been to seek private loans." In all, 107 students received significant help. Were it not for Madison for Keeps many would have dropped out.

The economy still struggles nearly two years later, and unemployment is stuck stubbornly above 9 percent. Similarly, the number of emergency family appeals to the financial aid office remains stuck at nearly double the average it was before the great recession. Plus, the Pell Grant program — started 30 years ago to make college accessible to low-income students — has been on the chopping block because of the federal deficit. Volatility, it seems, is the new normal for students hoping to educate themselves.

Sheila Smith, director of the JMU Office of Annual Giving, was one of the architects of Madison for Keeps, which reached \$432,000 by year end with gifts from 3,876 donors. She's introducing a new permanent version this fall. "Just like investors seeking strategies to manage volatility, JMU is launching a new and permanent program called Madison Forever," she says. "Rather than scrambling to action when an emergency need occurs, we will

build a Madison Forever fund to give the Office of Financial Aid the flexibility to help students who, because of unforeseen family circumstances, need help."

One of the special little Madison traditions I remember as a student and still see carried on today is that people on campus hold doors open for one another — even when the person behind them is still several paces away. I think of Madison Forever in the same way: Alumni and friends who want to hold the door open to the Madison Experience for students in financial need can do so through Madison Forever.

It's a tradition we can be proud of and support.

* See how you can make a difference at www.jmu.edu/madisonforever.

2011 CAA champs!

The JMU baseball team captured the 2011 Colonial Athletic Association Championship on May 28 with a 10-1 win over Old Dominion University. JMU finished 21-9 in the CAA and was knocked out of the NCAA Championships by North Carolina at Chapel Hill on June 5.

In 2011, JMU played more games than ever in the program's history, and the Dukes earned the third most wins in club history, posting an overall record of 42-19.

Junior catcher Jake Lowery of Midlothian, Va., made headlines throughout the season. He was listed in the July 25 *Sports Illustrated* in its "Faces in the Crowd" feature section. Lowery was one of seven amateur athletes recognized. This honor followed a season of presti-

gious accolades for Lowery, who received the 2011 Johnny Bench Award given to the nation's best collegiate catcher. In July, CollegeBaseballInsider.com named him the National Hitter of the Year. Read more at JMUports.com. **M**



(Above): 2011 CAA Champion baseball team and below the 2010 CAA women's soccer champs. (Right): Catcher Jake Lowery ('12).



A record-setting year

JMU teams rank No. 2 in Virginia for wins

JMU baseball, cross country, lacrosse, women's basketball and women's soccer each won Colonial Athletic Association titles in 2010-11, which helped JMU place No. 2 among Virginia's Division I schools in a ranking of each athletics department's 2010-11 overall winning percentage. JMU posted its best mark in 30 years according to the annual all-sports survey conducted by the Virginia Sports Information Directors. JMU teams finished with a 228-125-3 overall record for a .645 winning percentage, which includes JMU's 13 varsity sports that accumulate a won-loss record.

The .645 mark was the second best in the school's history as a Division I institution, trailing only the .686 percentage established in 1981-82. JMU posted the state's best ratio of its teams to post records over .500 with 12 of 13 attaining a winning record. The survey also breaks down the rankings according to men's teams and women's teams, and JMU easily posted the state's best women's mark at .650 (138-74-1).



2010-11 JMU wins by the numbers:

Baseball	42-19 (.689)
Men's basketball	21-12 (.636)
Women's basketball	26-8 (.765)
Field hockey	9-10 (.474)
Football	6-5 (.545)
Lacrosse	15-4 (.789)
Men's soccer	9-7-2 (.556)
Women's soccer	15-7-1 (.674)
Softball	29-23 (.558)
Swimming and diving	10-5 (.667)
Men's tennis	12-8 (.600)
Women's tennis	12-9 (.571)
Volleyball	22-8 (.733)



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Eileen F. Arnaldo ('96), field hockey
Mike Cawley ('96), football
Megan Riley Clark ('00), lacrosse
Curtis Keaton ('00), football

Aimee Vaughn Sharpe ('98), soccer
Jason Long ('01), track/cross country
 *posthumous



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The joy of scholarship

Phi Beta Kappa nod is the capstone of my cherished Madison Experience BY EDEN PARKS ('11)

Every so often, the college experiences that create the most personal exasperation can transform into sources of delight.

My Madison Experience had its shares of ups and downs. I have berated myself for choosing an overly full schedule to ensure I could take an extra class with a favorite professor. The same professor would share precious moments after class and offer encouragement, advice or hard-won praise. Sometimes I would exhaust myself by working into the early hours of the morning at Carrier Library. My reward — an exam sporting a better-than-expected grade. I'd walk across the Quad grimacing at the fact that, once again, I changed a correct response on a test to the wrong answer and recognized my misstep as soon as I turned in my paper.

I gained the valuable lesson of not taking everything quite so seriously.

There are also the Madison memories that are completely wonderful from start to finish: Becoming friends with people who have similar goals is high on that list. The most significant of my memorable Madison events occurred unexpectedly in my senior year when I received recognition from the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society. I was excited and gratified by this honor. There is a certain level of pride knowing that the years of effort I put into studying did not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

As a member of the 2011 initiates into the Xi of Virginia JMU Phi Beta Kappa chapter, I attended an induction banquet for student inductees on March 18. It was a privilege to be in the company of JMU alumna and inductee Constance N. Wilson, M.D., a pioneer in medical research and founder of Endacea Inc., an emerging biopharmaceutical company. Wilson spoke eloquently about her gratitude for the gift of insight and the importance and rewards of using intellectual abilities for the benefit of others.

The 2011 inductees were read the words of Charles Evans Hughes, the 11th Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court; and those, too, have stayed in my mind: *"The particular interest*

About the Author Eden Parks ('11) earned her bachelor's degree in English *summa cum laude*. She won the 2011 JMU Department of English Award for Excellence in the Study of Creative Writing — Fiction. She also participated in and wrote original poetry for the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum's National Poetry Month program, Poet-Tree reading. Parks was a technology assistant at JMU's Carrier Library, and she plans to attend graduate school at the University of Maryland to earn a master's in library science.

of Phi Beta Kappa is in liberal education. Whatever debate there may be as to its exact definition, it means the development by careful training of the capacity to appreciate what has been done and thought, the ability to make worthwhile appraisals of achievements, doctrines, theories, proposals. It is liberal because it emancipates. It signifies freedom from the tyranny of ignorance and, from what is worse, the dominion of folly. Learning is not its aim,

so much as intelligence served by learning ... At this time, when the world stands in need of every influence, which favors intellectual discipline and achievement, the service of Phi Beta Kappa is of heightened value. It holds aloft the old banner of scholarship; to the students who have turned aside from easier paths and, by their talent and fidelity, have proved themselves to be worthy, it gives the fitting recognition of a special distinction."

The weighty notion that a liberal education emancipates individuals defines my Madison Experience. Knowledge acquired is so much more than facts and figures. My studies as an English major

have led me to develop a great deal as an individual. The exposure to different ideologies, cultures and worldviews has helped me to discern aspects of myself I would not have considered otherwise. This self-realization has been one of the greatest driving forces and the greatest benefit of my college education. Intellectual development has a tangible

nature. Looking back on my freshman-year essays — which seemed very clever at the time — I shudder at my inexperience. Now, I look at the world I am entering and realize that, yes, the human family does need freedom from "folly" on so many levels. I know that it is incumbent on each of us to contribute to a better future.

Finally, I am humbled by the knowledge that the interest, aid and appreciation I received from my professors was not because of a Phi Beta Kappa status. From day one of classes, JMU professors made a real investment in their students. It was obvious they were in class because they loved to teach. From courses on the Gothic Novel to 17th-Century British Poetry, from Excursions in German Literature to Dante, from Creative Writing to the History of the English Language, my professors made each and every session a wonderful journey into the realm of scholarship.

Beyond the honor of now belonging to a prestigious few, I can say that I have come to value those intellectual experiences as my Madison legacy. For me, and I imagine for my fellow inductees, Phi Beta Kappa's acknowledgement is the capstone on an already cherished college experience.

■



Summa cum laude 2011 graduate Eden Parks says that her Phi Beta Kappa induction was the capstone on an already cherished Madison Experience.

'I know that it is incumbent on each of us to contribute to a better future.'

Bright



[Molly Klote ('88)]

Advocating for patients and lifelong learning

BY BRANDI MOORING ('11M)

The glass ceiling for female physicians in the military shattered years ago. Always focusing on the mission, the military uses the best person to get the job done, regardless of gender. Female physicians have made such significant contributions in the military that now they have their own award.

In 2009, the Military Health System created the Building Stronger Female Physician Leaders to recognize the military's top female physicians. The 2010 class of six recipients includes

Lt. Col. Mary "Molly" McNerney Klote ('88), recognized for her extensive work in biomedical research oversight and for her positive role as a female medical practitioner. Committed to her passion of the expansion of knowledge in the medical field, Klote currently serves as director for the Clinical Investigation Regulatory Office, part of the Office of Research Protections, USA Medical Research and Materiel Command at Fort Detrick, Md. Her clinical work is done at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She is also an assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics at Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Md.

A computer information systems major at JMU, Klote's impressive list of accomplishments includes a dual board certification in internal medicine and allergy immunology. She is a Fellow of the American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology. Her

The Military Health System honored Lt. Col. Mary "Molly" McNerney Klote ('88) for her extensive work in biomedical research oversight and for her positive role as a female medical practitioner.

Lights

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

research background has focused on tuberculosis in the immunocompromised and vaccine research with anthrax, smallpox and influenza. She has twice been named a finalist for the Bailey K. Ashford Award, Walter Reed's research competition.

"The medical field is a commitment, a lifelong commitment to learning and teaching," says Klote, a JMU ROTC alumna. "Research is an equal commitment. Every study you do may answer the question you go after, but it may raise other questions. Then you have to ask why and what are the implications? You have to keep asking the questions, and you have to have the fortitude to go after the answers."

Klote believes being in the medical field comes down to leading a life of service. "You cannot be a doctor unless you love people," she says. "There is no question, the idea of service is around us — you are an advocate for your patients."

Klote's inspiration to lead a life dedicated to service originated from her own family. Her childhood experience as an 'Army brat' led her to pursue her own military career in military intelligence and eventually attend the School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University. "I was brought up in a military family, and my dad was always happy because he loved being in the Army," she says. "The idea of service extends not only to serving your country but service to your patients."

Klote did not take the conventional route to becoming a medical doctor — she carved her own pathway, creating her own opportunities along the way. "One of the hardest decisions I had to make was leaving the Army intelligence corps to apply to medical school — it was a leap of faith and a big life gamble," says Klote. "I knew if I really put my mind and all my energies into it I could make it."

Reflecting on her own military career, she adds, "Had I not been in the Army I don't think I would ever have had the opportunity to be a department chief at this point in my life. There is always a new opportunity to pursue or a higher level of authority to assume in the Army." Before entering medical school she says, "I was glad that I had that five years of life experience, it made me a more well-rounded military doctor, helping me

understand the operational side of the Army. Prior service in active duty provided me with leadership roles, which later made me more confident in my relationship with patients and peers."

Klote also found the love of her life — Jim — at medical school. "I got married at the end of medical school and then priorities changed when we had our first child. My children are probably the reason I am an allergist immunologist and not an intensive care doctor as I had planned."

Her interest in immunology led to her vaccine research for the Army as a staff allergist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. "Understanding how to get a research project off the ground and through the research review process led me to apply to the clinical investigation department," Klote says. "Helping others to get their research approved and done became my new passion. It was a real opportunity to teach others and help get their research started."

While assigned to the Medical Research Materiel Command's Office of

Research Protections, Klote has made positive changes in the Clinical Investigation Regulatory Office. She has worked to streamline the protocol review process through an electronic protocol management system for the whole Army medical department. "It helps to account for and route everything and improves the time it takes to get research approved and to clear publications for public release."

To balance the demands as a physician and research regulator with the roles of wife and mother of three, Klote uses the support system learned from her parents. "The key to balancing family and career is being flexible and supportive of each other in times of stress. My husband was there for the family when I went to Iraq. Experiences like that can strengthen your respect for each other and your commitment to each other."

Klote adds, "If you want a career in medicine, you have to enjoy getting to know others. You can learn something from everyone you meet — every leader, male or female, you can learn from his or her style. And for every patient you have to imagine they are your brother, sister, or your parent. You have to take care of them like they are your own family."



Lt. Col. Mary "Molly" McNerney Klote ('88)
mentors female Army physicians in her role as
director for the Clinical Investigation Regulatory
Office at Fort Detrick, Md.

**'The medical
field is a lifelong
commitment
to learning and
teaching.'**

— MOLLY KLOTE ('88),
2010 Building Stronger
Female Physician Leaders
Award winner

[Omar Thomas ('06)]

A harmonious career

BY TYLER MCAVOY ('12)

At an early age, Omar Thomas ('06) knew that music would be intertwined with his life like the notes on a score, and he was smart enough to follow his passion.

His love of music, coupled with courage and talent, has crescendoed into a successful career. His adventure has included stints in jazz, pop and rock, to now teaching at one of the most lauded music institutions in the nation. Thomas shares his musical passions with students at Boston's Berklee College of Music, where he is assistant professor of harmony.

Thomas says his Madison Experience was a focal point in shaping his love of music. "JMU's School of Music wasn't just about the music. The JMU experience is about growing. It's about surviving growing pains and being at a school that gives you the freedom to have growing pains."

Like many aspiring musicians, Thomas participated in his high-school marching band. Though already musically inclined, he felt a certain affinity with the sound and feel of a big band. "I'm a huge advocate of talking about not how music sounds but how it *feels*, to instantly make that connection," says Thomas.

In stomp the Marching Royal Dukes.

"I remember listening to a recording of the Marching Royal Dukes when I was a freshman in high school, and I immediately knew I had to check out JMU," Thomas recalls. "JMU was the only school I applied to, and I'm happy I got in."

Thomas started his undergraduate work at JMU with a degree in music education in mind. He wanted to become a high-school band director, but as he began to grow and experience more music at JMU, he found a new path.

"I discovered another side of myself at JMU," he says. "I found that I needed to create and compose original music." As an undergraduate, Thomas wrote original music for the big band genre utilizing techniques and theories he learned in class. The more he learned, the better his compositions became. He is currently using his



Berklee College Professor of Harmony Omar Thomas ('06) enjoys relating his own musical experiences to his students. Thomas also directs the 18-piece Omar Thomas Large Ensemble.

undergrad compositions as the base for more developed professional work.

"I discovered my affinity, my love and my talent for composition," says Thomas. "I didn't have nearly as much confidence in my writing ability as I do now. As a freshman, I couldn't have dreamed of composing the music I'm composing today."

After graduation, Thomas went to the New England Conservatory in Boston to earn a master's in musical education. Between studies he tended bar at a local restaurant that hosted a weekly jazz brunch. The band's bass player worked at Berklee, and suggested that Thomas look for a job opening there.

Thomas discovered the assistant director of harmony position and an opportunity

to help students understand chords and melodies in completely different ways.

"The job description was so perfect for me that I freaked out a little bit," says Thomas. "After I calmed down, I realized that if I didn't apply, I'd be the dumbest person on Earth."

After a rigorous selection process in 2008, Thomas, then 24, was offered and accepted the position.

Thomas says that any musician with enough passion can reach any goal they endeavor. He relates his experiences to his students at Berklee. "I let students know that I understand what they're going through and do my best to help them succeed."

In addition to his faculty duties at Berklee, Thomas is a rising star in the composing world. He is currently in the studio with his big band, the Omar Thomas Large Ensemble, recording the group's first album, *I Am*. The 18-piece band regularly performs in the Boston area, and many of the tracks on the album, including the title track, are compositions Thomas started writing at JMU.

Thomas says he is dedicating the album to Chuck Dotas, professor of music in JMU's School of Music, and to the JMU Jazz Ensemble for their hand in molding him into the musician he is. "JMU and all of my influences fuel me to do what I'm doing, and I want to make them all proud." **M**

'I remember listening to a recording of the Marching Royal Dukes when I was a freshman in high school, and I immediately knew I had to check out JMU.'

— OMAR THOMAS ('06),
assistant professor of harmony,
Berklee College of Music

[Ted Boyke ('99)]

From Harrisonburg to Hollywood

BY JACQUELYN WALSH ('09)

With two young daughters and a gig working with animated films like *The Princess and the Frog*, it's hard not to be king of your household. But Ted Boyke ('99) takes it in stride.

As assistant technical director in the Layout Finaling Department with Disney's Feature Animation division in Los Angeles, Boyke adds lifelike animated details to the frames in animated films.

"It helps to have two little princesses in the house, my 5-year-old Molly and my 2-year-old Annie. They are big fans; I'm lucky I had the perfect target audience," Boyke says.

During his work on *The Princess and the Frog*, Boyke gave animators technical and artistic support. "I was really happy to be working on a hand-drawn movie," says Boyke, who traces his success back to his Madison Experience.

Toy Story, the film that set a new standard for animated feature films, was released in 1995, while Boyke was studying in the JMU School of Media Arts and Design. It was the first year that computer animation was offered at JMU. Boyke's concentration was in media writing with a minor in film studies.

Since its beginning, the computer animation program has grown, boasting JMU alumni who work for companies including PIXAR, Blizzard Entertainment, Square Enix, Reel FX, Big Idea, Metrolight Studios, Bethesda Softworks and many others,

says Peter Ratner, professor of art and creator of JMU's 3-D computer animation program. "The JMU program focuses a lot on digital and technical skills that help students obtain positions such as Ted's," adds Ratner. "Our animation students realize it takes dedication, creativity and patience to succeed."

JMU experiences outside the classroom also helped Boyke in his career. He was a

'The student clubs and activities I got involved in were just as instrumental in preparing me for my career as the academic classes.'

— TED BOYKE ('99),
Disney films animator

film assistant at Grafton-Stovall Theatre for two years. He reviewed tons of movies and helped pick the features that students enjoyed. "*Pulp Fiction* was a really hot movie when I was working at Grafton-Stovall. We showed about four movies a week," says Boyke, who also was part of the JMU film club Gemini Entertainment, now called Cinemuse.



Disney Feature Animation film animator Ted Boyke ('99) took his JMU academic and extracurricular experiences to Hollywood and has worked on several blockbuster releases like 2010's *The Princess and the Frog*.

The club was originally founded to create student films. "It became a way for students to produce short films using university equipment," he says. "When students started Gemini they were actually able to get funds from the University Program Board, and that was key in affording the videotape, lights and various equipment. It was low-budget but UPB was very helpful."

The student film club piqued Boyke's interest in film work, he says, and he used the camera work and editing he did for the group as a resumé-booster. It helped land Boyke an internship with HBO Sports in Manhattan after graduation. "They loved that I had extracurricular activities on my resumé," says Boyke. "It was great. I got to work on featured boxing broadcasts and at the Goodwill Games. It was really cool having a backstage pass to those events."

When his internship ended, HBO wasn't hiring, so Boyke crashed at his parents' basement before heading to the West Coast with Ashley Laplante ('99), his future wife. "We decided to just go for it and head to California," he recalls. "We both wanted to be in the movie industry, and you really have to be in Los Angeles if you want to break in."

Boyke got a foot in the door by temping at companies and studios in Los Angeles. He worked on some music video projects and worked for a music law firm before landing a temp job with the Disney Feature Animation department. "Animation was something that I found out I liked after college," says Boyke, whose brother-in-law also is a JMU grad and works at Disney.

After a decade with Disney, Boyke has taken on projects in a variety of departments, worked nearly every shift possible and worked on 3-D aspects of movies. Once a film's animators draw the characters, Boyke and other technical directors assist them with scanning characters into a computer to begin the digital process.

"It is a really enjoyable experience. An animator draws one butterfly, and I scan it into the computer and use the software to make that one butterfly into a cloud of butterflies, all flap-

ping their wings at a different rate," says Boyke, who also worked on the 2010 Disney release *Tangled*, based on the German fairy tale *Rapunzel*.

"My Madison Experience was a really well-rounded college experience," adds Boyke. "The student clubs and activities I got involved in were just as instrumental in preparing me for my career as the academic classes." ■



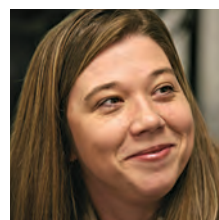
Reading statistics indicate that millions of American adults are poor readers or functionally illiterate. Reading deficiencies are not just a personal problem; they are a national problem. Concerns for U.S. educational quality often mire in fractious, political debate, while classroom teachers battle uphill to help today's students overcome those odds. **But there is hope.** A JMU graduate student, a professor and a Virginia school system are working together to change young lives.

BY HARRY ATWOOD ('87)

Rescuing young readers

How one JMU grad student, a professor and an elementary school faculty are removing roadblocks

Second-grade students in Ressie Jeffries Elementary School listen to their teacher Sandy Sinclair. Students are benefitting from Ressie Jeffries teacher and JMU alumna Rheannon Sorrells ('04, '11M), who asked her former JMU professor how to improve her students' reading skills.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY
NORM SHAFER

A First-Grade Classroom

As I walk into Jaime Marion's ('04) class, it's hard not to smile. The chairs and desks are comically small; bright backpacks hang from a set of hooks along the wall down around waist level, and 15 little faces all look up at me (an unexpected visitor) as if a giant rabbit had just hopped into the room. Walking into a first-grade classroom — for someone not used to it — can be an *Alice in Wonderland* experience. So it felt to me, when I went to see JMU education professor Allison Kretlow conduct a “coaching session” for reading teachers at Ressie Jeffries Elementary School in Warren County, Va.

Allison Kretlow is here today, as she has been nearly every week, sometimes two or three times, for a year and a half to “coach” teachers on the techniques of RtI (Response to Intervention) a research-based reading instruction method. I find myself hunkering down on a toadstool of a chair at a half-moon table. Kretlow and Marion sit on the straight-edged side of the table and four students are called over (three boys and a girl). They scoot their chairs up around the curved side. The girl informs us with a huge grin that today is her birthday, and both Kretlow and Marion dote on her before it's time to get down to business.

Marion pulls out a laminated card with a seemingly random set of phonemes, (all diphthongs and diagraphs to be technical): *Ay, ee, oo, sh, ch, th*.



The drill begins. Marion methodically prompts the students, pointing at each phoneme one at a time and cueing, “I say ‘ay’. You say ‘___?’.” The kids repeat her sounds in perfect unison. She guides them through variations on that same exercise, sometimes with simple pointing and no verbal prompt, sometimes by requiring students to “sound it out the silent way and then read it out the fast way.” The kids perform well. Kretlow then repeats one of the exercises, modeling for Marion a few subtle differences in how to pace and pause in order to assure all four kids are responding in unison, and better allowing Marion to assess for hesitations or other signs of difficulty. Next, the students are given small whiteboards and erasable markers, and Marion conducts some drills with a writing component. It's very sweet to see kids getting

such a kick out of applying erasable ink to a white-board, but adding the tactile is purposeful and sound pedagogy.

Effective reading instruction takes a lot of skill and knowledge.

Allison Kretlow, JMU professor of education, works with first-grade teacher Jaime Marion ('04) on helping students with word recognition via the Response to Intervention way.

In the short breaks between the mini-lessons, I listen to Kretlow and Marion discussing their craft; the conversation is peppered with jargon. “There were some medial vowel issues,” Kretlow says at one point. “As long as you're adding and not supplanting,” she adds later. It's a pleasure to watch these two professionals honing technique on “subvocals,” and “blending,” and “automaticity.”

One of the fundamental aspects of Kretlow's work at Ressie Jeffries is that she is there frequently. “It takes at least 14 contact hours before real change in teacher development takes place,” says Kretlow. And so, it's meant many long drives from JMU to Front Royal and back to her home in Crozet. Fortunately, the work has produced encouraging results.

In fact, the work Kretlow has done at Ressie has been so effective that Warren County school officials have requested that she help implement RtI in all five elementary schools. That process has



‘This unassuming elementary school is like many other schools across America with a friendly office staff, hard-working teachers and administrators, and about 600 students ...’

already begun as Kretlow and former Ressie principal Lisa Rudacille teach a Specialized Reading Interventions course to 20 teachers, Title 1 reading coaches and district instructional leaders in Warren County through JMU's Outreach Center in the College of Education.

When asked how this all came to be, Kretlow mentions one of her JMU students. "It all started with Rheannon Sorrells," she says with a smile.

Rheannon — The Spark

Ressie Jeffries Elementary School is about an hour's drive north of JMU. The school is a typical brick building nestled into the scenic foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Front Royal. This unassuming elementary school is like many other schools across America with a friendly office staff, hard-working teachers and administrators, and about

600 students harrumphing, fidgeting, singing, drawing, playing and undergoing the often amorphous experience of learning. Like many such schools, Ressie Jeffries has a good number of students who come from low socio-economic backgrounds. Sixty-five percent of the students at Ressie qualify for free or reduced lunches. As statistics have borne out, such schools often struggle to meet objectives.

Fortunately, one of Ressie Jeffries' dedicated teachers is Rheannon Sorrells ('04, '11M), now in her seventh year of teaching. Sorrells can still remember how great it felt to land her first teaching job right there in her hometown of Front Royal. It didn't take long, however, for her to realize that her school was one in crisis. In 2008, 246 of the school's 500 students tested below grade level in reading. In 2009 the school failed to meet Annual Yearly Progress — the benchmark by which No Child Left

Behind determines whether schools are classified as succeeding or failing.

In 2009, Sorrells, who had taught kindergarten, second and third grade in previous years, asked to be given a first-grade teaching assignment. "Having experienced up through third grade, I knew that many of our students were not reading on grade level," Sorrells explains. "First-grade is that critical year in reading instruction. I wanted that challenge, but I was overwhelmed by the various programs we used at our school."

Around this time, Ressie's principal, Lisa Rudacille, was actively exploring new strategies for tackling the reading deficiencies at her school. One of those options was RtI. Coincidentally, Sorrells, who was pursuing a master's degree

Rheannon Sorrells ('04, '11M) works with first-graders at Ressie Jeffries Elementary School in Warren County, Va. With help from her JMU professor, Sorrells is seeing much improvement in her students' reading skills.





at JMU, began to hear about RtI in her Specialized Reading Interventions EXED504 course taught by Kretlow. One day after class, Sorrells approached her professor and asked what it would take to fully implement RtI at Ressie.

Sorrells did not quite expect the reaction she got from Kretlow. “She got really excited,” Sorrells recalls, “and told me to let my principal know that if she needed any help to contact her.” Rudacille jumped on the opportunity to harness some expert advice, and a partnership was born.

Both Sorrells and Kretlow are quick to credit Rudacille for being proactive. “Without Lisa, none of this would have ever happened, truly,” Kretlow says. “She was open enough to realize her school needed support, and she opened her staff up to new ideas. Rudacille was promoted to director of professional development at the end of 2010, and now the county has committed itself to implementing RtI in all of its elementary and middle schools.

Response to Intervention

Reading deficiencies are a national problem. A majority of Americans read at the fourth-grade level, and efforts to combat this issue have resulted in some unintended repercussions. “Statistics have shown that a disproportionately high number of students in America are being labeled with disabilities,” Kretlow says. That is especially true of minority males. “RtI grew out of this concern for the accurate identification of students with disabilities.”

According to the precepts of RtI, much of the deficits in reading abilities have more to do with the methods of teaching instruction than with the innate abili-

ties of the students. Also, students are individually different and one formula does not equal across-the-board success. Another precept is that elementary school teachers are, on the whole, not well trained in teaching reading.

There also is incomplete data on individual students that prevents teachers from focusing on the specific needs of each individual student. Teachers are not implementing research-based, best-practice methods.

Kretlow explains how the Response to Intervention program responds to these problems. “There’s been a paradigm shift in the last 10 years,” she says. “It used to be that kids had to show significant failure before schools would respond to them specifically. But with the advancement of effective diagnostic tools, schools can now evaluate students more effectively and put in place methods that will help them before they are labeled as disabled.”

Some fundamentals of good reading instruction are not unique to RtI. Educators have long agreed on the need to focus on certain basic principles: phonemic awareness, alphabetic principle, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. These components are the cornerstones of most methods of reading instruction. What makes RtI different and so effective is the strategy of diagnosing students early and often, and determining how much support each student needs. A three-tiered method is then employed based on each individual’s needs. Students who are the most advanced of readers are provided with Tier 1 support, while the students with the most needs are provided with Tier 3 support, which includes more time providing intensive support to smaller groups (usually one to three students) and

JMU education professor and reading specialist Allison Kretlow (center, yellow shirt) worked with Ressie Jeffries Elementary faculty numerous times during the 2010-11 academic year.

more work with the teacher modeling in a more systematic manner. Tier 3 support includes more assessment as well to better mark the progress of each student whose data is charted along a line with goals so that teachers and parents can see that the child is moving toward the goal.

Implementing RtI

Any experienced educator knows that new theories and methods about improving instruction frequently crop up, and one can easily guess what the reaction of Ressie’s experienced teachers must have been when they were told that a professor from JMU would be coming to the school regularly to revamp the way they were teaching.

“Change can be scary and usually comes with some resistance,” says Sorrells. “I think initially, the overall reaction was ‘Oh, great, something else we have to do.’ However, I think once our staff saw that Dr. Kretlow was going to be by our side throughout the process — that it wasn’t just a one-shot workshop and off you go sort of thing — there was a sense of relief.”

In fact, sustainable support is paramount in Kretlow’s mind as she implements RtI in Warren County. For RtI to be effective the entire school would have to “buy into” the idea. Also, certain staff members would need to undergo specific training to become “coaches” who could assist teachers in the coming years and thus maintain the research-based best-practice methods promoted in RtI.

'According to the precepts of RtI, much of the deficits in reading abilities have more to do with the methods of teaching instruction than with the innate abilities of the students.'

Credit where credit is due

The current principal at Ressie Jeffries, Antoinette Funk, is proud of the progress made at her school since Kretlow's introduction of RtI. "This year we have seen a reduction of students identified in our Tier 2 and Tier 3 programs," says Funk. "The percentages range by grade level, but in some grade levels we have seen a 50 to 61 percent reduction of students classified as Tier 3 readers. This is worth celebrating with all staff because each of them has played such an important role in helping the students succeed."

Funk is clearly impressed with Kretlow. "She understands the daily challenges that teachers face. Therefore, she relates well to each of our staff. She has offered lots of support and modeling to our teachers."

Kretlow is quick to return the compliment, praising Funk's leadership. "It is not an easy task to take over a school that has lots of students below grade level, much less a school that is in the middle of a school reform effort."

Kretlow also mentions the help she received from JMU faculty colleague Christy Bartholomew. "I came to JMU

with an already developed coaching model," Kretlow says, "but Christy helped me broaden it to include teacher perspectives. Her specific contribution included developing focus groups with all teachers three times a year, to talk with them about their perspectives, barriers to improving instruction and overall needs. This was incredibly instrumental in what I have been able to do with the teachers because I have been able to design all of the training to meet their individual needs versus the typical 'top down' training teachers receive from districts."

Kretlow is most effusive when she talks about the teachers at Ressie Jeffries. "Honestly, the teachers have truly amazed me because of their openness and constant devotion to the students. They're the ones who have done this."

Smiles abound among second-graders, their teacher and reading specialist as the RtI methods bring success to happy readers.



JMU education professor Christy Bartholomew helps bring the teacher's perspective to the Response to Intervention method.

The Game

Back in Marion's first-grade class, the kids are insisting that it is time for the "word game." Kretlow had earlier suggested they might play this so-called "game" but now she seems hesitant. She shakes her head. "I don't know," she teases. "Miss Marion might win..." and suddenly the kids are indignant. "I..I..we've played her lots of times," the birthday girl stammers excitedly searching for the right words before they come spilling out in one great torrent of a sentence. "I... we...we always win; we win every time; every time we've played her we won; we haven't lost once."

This outpouring brings a smile to everyone's face, and "Miss Marion" pulls flash cards out and stacks them face down on the table. The kids on cue watch Marion as she quickly holds up the first card. "Does" the kids say in unison. The next card is flashed. "Today," they say and they rattle through the remaining four words, "would, says, have, there." Miss Marion has lost again. The kids are beaming, but no more so than Allison Kretlow. **MI**



* Learn more about the JMU College of Education at www.jmu.edu/coe/ and watch a video featuring first-grade teacher Rheannon Sorrells ('04, '11M) at www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/warren_county_reading.shtml.

Watch the video.



Huber Learning Community • Madison Eco Learning Community
Madison International • Psychology Learning Community • Roop Learning Community
Trelawney Learning Community • Visual and Performing Arts Community

Learning where you

LIVE

BY PAULA POLGLASE ('92,'96M)

Residential Learning
Communities connect
JMU students and professors
with similar interests



Imagine if your walk to class didn't involve a sprint across campus but was down stairs in your residence hall. Imagine taking a field trip with your hall mates, hiking with your professor, learning how to teach the physics of roller coasters or learning how to say "good morning" in Chinese from your roommate.



BIOLOGY BUDS



HONORS PIZZA PARTY



STUDY TIME



RAINY LONDON



PRACTICE TIME



FLORENCE SKYLINE

JMU freshmen don't have to imagine these types of Madison Experiences. First-year students at JMU have the unique option of participating in a Residential Learning Community. Learning communities offer students the benefit of connecting with a small group of students and professors with similar interests. JMU learning communities focus on different themes but offer many similar opportunities. A faculty coordinator organizes each learning community and students take a joint class related to the academic focus of the learning community.

"Learning communities create an automatic niche for students with similar academic interests," says Kathleen Campbell, associate director in the Office of Residence Life. She adds, "Students who participate in a JMU Residential Learning Community are very positive about their experiences."

Eight JMU learning communities include experiences for pre-professional health students, students interested in other cultures, psychology majors, education majors, biology majors, students majoring in the visual and performing arts, and Honors Program students.

Beyond the shared classes, students participate in field trips, community activities and unique academic experiences. Last year, learning community residents shared trips to the Baltimore Aquarium, the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C., and Kings Dominion. They also sponsored community dinners, themed parties and completed volunteer projects for Harrisonburg and Rockingham County agencies.

Courtney Waldmann ('13), an interdisciplinary liberal education major from Eastchester, N.Y., lived in the Roop Learning Community for education majors during her freshman year and stayed involved as a sophomore. She says she met some of her best friends through the Roop Learning Community. "Roop

has a Big/Little component," says Waldmann. "Freshmen are paired with sophomores to help ease their transition to college. I truly loved being a 'Little' and a 'Big' community member."

Faculty involvement is at the heart of JMU's residential learning communities. Each faculty coordinator plans out the academic and programmatic experience for students. Campbell has been impressed with the professors who get involved as learning coordinators. "These faculty members are passionate. They are particularly concerned with this group of students and their academic successes."

Waldmann says, "I have the best relationship with Roop faculty coordinator Dr. Cindy Klevickis. She is a wonderful teacher and always encourages us to pursue our goals. I



Cindy Klevickis directs the Roop Learning Community for students interested in teaching Pre-K through 12, and Oris Griffin is a professor-in-residence. (Below): Professor of psychology Kenn Barron directs the JMU Psychology Learning Community.



Honors Program Director Barry Falk and his staff have worked hard to develop the Honors Program outside of the classroom, creating a built-in sense of community that shapes honors students' Madison Experience.

For most first-year honors students a built-in sense of community starts where they live, in the Honors Living and Learning Center housed in Shenandoah Hall. This community brings together 200 first-year honors students from all majors to create an intellectual culture within the Honors Program.

"I was constantly surrounded by people who were just like me, in that they worked very hard for classes," says biology major Seana Sears ('13) of Round Hill, Va. "Living with all of these amazing, intelligent people made my transition from high school to college that much better."


Incoming freshmen who have been admitted to the JMU Honors Program are expected, but not required, to live in the honors residence hall. Although all honors students do not take a shared class, there is a faculty-in-residence



Honors Program Director Barry Falk (front row, far right) takes a photo opportunity with students in JMU's 2008 Oxford study group while in England.

know I can always turn to her if I need help with anything."

in Shenandoah Hall and additional programming focused on intellectual engagement.

Great success with the honors hall has sparked high retention rates in the Honors Program and led to the expansion of the program within Shenandoah Hall. "We've occupied half of another wing and hope to grow more," says Falk. 

'THESE FACULTY MEMBERS ARE PASSIONATE. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH THIS GROUP OF STUDENTS AND THEIR ACADEMIC SUCCESSSES.'

In addition to the Honors Living and Learning Center, JMU offers first-year students the option of applying to live in one of seven

Residential Learning Communities:

Huber Learning Community

Twenty pre-professional health students are accepted each year to the Huber Learning Community. Students who are interested in preparing for a professional health career share a seminar class in both the fall and spring semester that addresses local and global health challenges and how they relate to a variety of health professions.

Madison Eco Learning Community

First-year students who want to explore environmental issues and learn how to live more a more sustainable life live in Wayland Hall, designed to be the first Platinum LEED certified residence hall renovation in the country. Students share several classes, develop outdoor skills through recreational activities, and participate in community projects and field trips.

Madison International

Madison International is a diverse cohort of international and American students who are interested in learning about world cultures, beliefs and practices from each other. Students participate in a seminar class each semester as well as various programs and activities that give them a diverse international experience right in the center of campus.

Psychology Learning Community

Students with a strong interest in psychology get a unique two-semester introduction to the field through tailor-made courses and experiences to help jump-start their major studies. Students participate in advanced course work, research and practical experiences as well as secure early admission to the major.

Roop Learning Community

Students interested in a teaching career take their core science classes together. Education-related community service and field trips to local and regional museums, parks and schools round out the experience.

Trelawney Learning Community

Biology majors and students interested in research get a jump-start in the field through their participation in Trelawney. In addition to seminar classes exploring topics in biological sciences, each student is paired with a faculty member to conduct hands-on research during freshman year.


Visual and Performing Arts Community

The Visual and Performing Arts Learning Community is housed in Wayland Hall, newly renovated to accommodate performance, practice and studio space for students interested in the arts. This community focuses on the artist as citizen leader and on identifying the creative and interdisciplinary connections between the arts and campus.

Three members of the Madison Eco Learning community enjoy the natural beauty of campus. Left to right are Lindsay Holt ('14), Liz Coates ('14) and Sam Frere ('14).







Small class sizes,
peer challenges, study
abroad and fun

Living WITH HONORS

“Being in the Honors Program represents being one of the top students at JMU,” says junior accounting major Taylor Selby ('13) of Ijamsville, Md. “It shows that you are dedicated to your studies, which is rewarded with perks like living in the honors hall, early registration, smaller class sizes and honors seminars.”

Selby applied to the Honors Program shortly after being admitted to JMU. A mantra of the JMU Honors Program is that classes are “different, not more.” And Selby agrees. She says her classes are “more fun due to the discussions we engage in and the extra trust placed in us by our professors.”

Selby especially liked living in the Honors Living and Learning Center her freshman year. “It’s nice being around people who put a lot of effort and time into their schoolwork,” she says. “Freshman year we would all hang out and do work in the study lounge. It was a great way to get work done while also being social.”

Students from all academic majors are represented in the honors hall, a huge benefit according to Selby. “The diversity of majors helps a lot when you need homework help.”

In addition to hiking, horseback riding, community service projects, Relay for Life and other shared opportunities, the Honors Program staff offers the Honors Seminar Abroad: The Bloomsbury Group for freshmen and sophomores. Twenty-four students, including Selby, and two faculty members participated in the first honors experiential learning trip to London, England, in May 2010. Students prepared for the class and the three-week trip throughout the spring semester. Responsible for conducting independent research before and during the trip, students were required to share their experiences at a fall symposium with professors, students and prospective honors students.

“While our days were filled with class time, museums and field trips, we also had plenty of time to explore London,” recalls Selby. “Instead of a straight lecture from the professors, we taught each other and shared a free-flowing discussion.”

Honors Program Director Barry Falk says the success of the first trip led to the Honors Seminar Abroad: Art and Politics in Medici, Florence. Future plans include a course in Barcelona.

“The benefits of being in the Honors Program are astounding,” says Selby. “I’m excited about writing my thesis and looking forward to exploring a subject that interests me. I look forward to learning how to handle such a big paper in terms of time management, writing skills and working with others to complete a major project. I really look forward to graduating with distinction.” ■

*Listen to current students share their JMU Honors Program experiences at www.jmu.edu/honorsprog/video.shtml.

“It’s nice being around people who put a lot of effort and time into their schoolwork,” says Taylor Selby ('13), who lived in the Honors Program residential learning community in Shenandoah Hall with 200 freshman Honors students. The Honors Program has expanded its Learning Community to accommodate more students.



The sound, the music

Renowned composer and Hollywood sound engineer resonate with a new generation

By JAMIE MARSH

Soon Hee Newbold ('96) has traveled to exotic lands for world premieres of her musical compositions and festivals in her honor. Her husband, Erin Rettig ('96), has worked alongside Hollywood giants as a sound engineer for films like *Gulliver's Travels*, *A-Team* and *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*. They are both tops in their careers and amassing enviable achievements — a refrain that began at JMU.

The duo met in the JMU School of Music. Newbold was concertmaster of JMU orchestras, and Rettig played principal cello. As first-year students, they both declared double majors in music performance and pre-med, though Newbold eventually switched from pre-med to music industry. She liked that JMU was strong in all her interests: science, business and music. "I loved the feel of JMU because of the attitudes of the faculty, the size of the school, and the music industry program," she recalls. Rettig had become familiar with JMU's music program from attending orchestra camps during high school. "JMU gave me a great opportunity to study and grow, personally and intellectually, and to decide what I wanted to do with the rest of my life," he says.

They saw each other frequently during orchestra, string quartet, and ensemble performances and shared many friends. As upperclassmen, they started to date. Newbold enjoyed hosting dinner parties for music faculty members in a huge off-campus house that she shared with roommates, while Rettig played in a string quartet for the Mill Street Grill in Staunton, Va. To help pay the bills, Rettig started a barbershop group that offered paid serenades on Valentine's Day. "I put an ad in *The Breeze*," he says. "People could call and schedule a time and place for us to do the serenades. We'd show up — many times as a surprise to the 'love interest' — and sing. It was very romantic and very different."

After graduation, the couple wed and moved to Orlando, Fla. They performed with professional orchestras and at Walt Disney World. They both played backup to big names like Neil

Sedaka and Jodi Benson and appeared in a music video with Shakira. Newbold was gaining more of a passion for film, while Rettig became interested in audio production and engineering. While in Orlando, they recorded several albums. The first featured their string quartet, *Celtic Threads*. Next came *Faces of Huntington's* and *Pinches of Salt, Prisms of Light*, both with companion books by the same title. These projects included pop songs sung by the author of the books and original music written by Newbold and a few close friends. She also took up acting, landing a role in *The Waterboy* (1998).

... and the inspiration

Pursuing an array of related interests is not unusual for JMU alumni, according to George Sparks, dean of the JMU College of Visual and Performing Arts. “JMU grads leave with a broad-based education that makes them versatile, well-rounded people. Soon Hee and Erin are signifiers of the fine foundational education you get in liberal arts. You can direct those skills into many different paths.”

After four years of success in Orlando, the couple moved to Los Angeles. Newbold’s acting career expanded into independent feature films, and she became a published composer through the FJH Music Publishing Co. Her works range in difficulty from beginning to advanced, allowing groups from elementary school to college orchestras to play her pieces. Rettig branched out into film as a production mixer, and then moved to post-production including sound design, editing, engineering and re-recording mixing. “In essence,” Sparks says, “Soon Hee and Erin left JMU prepared to be editors and composers even though neither one of them majored in those areas.”

Newbold and Rettig both say they love their work. “The film credits you may find on IMDB is only part of the story,” Rettig says, referring to the Internet Movie Database where his biography includes more than 100 films, including blockbusters like *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*, *Shark Tale* and *The Ring Two*. “I’m very fortunate to work with some of the most talented and prolific people in the film sound business,” he says. “I enjoyed working with Steven Spielberg and Ben Burt’s crew on *Munich* (2005), when they came to mix with Andy Nelson at FOX Studios. Many of the people at that level are so professional and kind. They are the absolute best at what they do, and expect nothing less from all who work with them.”

For the past five years, Newbold has focused primarily on music publishing and composition. She spends the majority of her time composing and traveling the world as a guest conductor and clinician for various schools, festivals and conferences. “I love having a flexible schedule and getting to do what I love,” she says. Her work has become a favorite among musicians and directors. Her Facebook wall is full of posts from performers thanking her for writing their favorite pieces. Among the most frequently mentioned is *Perseus*, a symphonic piece following the legendary hero as he slays snake-haired Medusa and rescues Princess Andromeda. Musicians like how it commands attention of their audiences and engrosses them in an adventure.

Beyond the cool factor, many of Newbold’s compositions are deeply personal, inspired by her own life experiences. In November 2010, she released *Rhythms of Africa*, a string orchestra piece with percussion, inspired by the traditional folk music of Central and South Africa. Before the release, Newbold told her Facebook friends it was “dedicated to and in honor of my grandparents’ experiences in Africa for 15 years raising six kids.” Another of her well-known

‘I loved the feel of JMU because of the attitudes of the faculty, the size of the school, and the music industry program.’

— SOON HEE NEWBOLD ('96)

compositions, *Endless Dreams*, was written for her adoptive mother who was battling Huntington’s disease, a devastating neurological illness. “I wrote the song to help bring awareness and hope to Huntington’s,” Newbold says. “Having a parent with a debilitating disease certainly had an impact on the entire family.”


Both Newbold and Rettig shrug off the idea that they’re approaching the status of ‘famous’ in their industries. “We certainly have a long

way to go in life and in our careers,” Newbold says. “I don’t think we’ll ever have the feeling that we’ve ‘made it,’ but we do feel we’ve had a few successes.” She cites the premiere of a commissioned work in Singapore by the AMIS combined orchestras, and a trip to Indonesia in 2010 where the Jakarta International School orchestras hosted the Newbold Music Festival in her honor.

In addition to professional achievements, Rettig points out recreational pursuits that they enjoy.

“Martial arts is a big part of our life,” he says. Rettig holds a first degree black belt in tae kwon do and Newbold has earned a third degree black belt in tae kwon do, a second degree black in hapkido, and a black belt in kigumdo — a Korean martial art using swords. Rettig is also an aviator with a single engine land pilot’s license.

To be successful in a variety of pursuits is increasingly part of what defines JMU graduates, Sparks says. “It is not that unusual for JMU grads to rise to the top of every area they pursue. JMU grads are not ‘all work and no play,’ but are well-rounded, successful people.”

Newbold agrees. “I met some of my best friends, learned to make it in the real world, and totally enjoyed my Madison Experience,” she says. 



Soon Hee Newbold ('96) and Erin Rettig ('96) met at JMU and married after graduation. The renowned composer and Hollywood sound engineer are bringing the sound and the music to a new generation.

The sweet music of service

The greatest adventure of my life — helping children in Ghana

BY ERIN FRYE ('07)

I am fully addicted to and have fallen in love with the beautiful people and culture of the Republic of Ghana, Africa. After completing two volunteer trips to this African nation, I have learned that music is a language that everyone speaks and can understand.

After graduating from JMU, I worked as a consultant for CapTech Ventures. Soon, I felt a calling to leave my job and dive into a new culture. I did a little research, and in June 2008, with the help of a program called Cross Cultural Solutions, I bought a plane ticket, took my savings, grabbed my guitar and headed for Ghana.

I've always been involved in volunteer work, prison ministry, playing music at local soup kitchens, etc., but I really wanted to let go of my earthly possessions, take on a challenge and make myself *uncomfortable*.

That is when you grow the most.

It is much easier to look away from the painful reality of poverty in our own communities, let alone in Third World countries, rather than face it and do something. My first assignment in Ghana was in the deprived village of Hohoe, four hours from the capital, Accra. I used my voice and my guitar to teach the children songs. I taught them everything from Bob Marley to American folk songs and old hymns. I also brought supplies and taught the children how to make their own rhythm instruments. Most of the Hohoe children I met were innately rhythmic and musical. They often taught me new songs. What I received on this trip was incredible; the children blessed me in ways I could never imagine. They showed me what true faith, joy and love look like.

In June 2010, I returned to Ghana with my whole family and a few friends to work in the Hohoe Christian Orphanage (www.hohoeorphanage.org). We taught art, English and music; led morning worship, and coached soccer. We brought 16 suitcases full of donations, including new soccer uniforms, cleats, toothbrushes, clothes, underwear and more. Children in Ghana have few worldly possessions, but they find joy and contentment in everything.

During our 2010 trip, South Africa was hosting the FIFA World Cup Soccer Championship. It was incredible to be in Ghana and watch their soccer team beat the U.S. team. The national pride was palpable in the streets and visible on the children's faces. I have never witnessed anything like that.

This visit was the greatest adventure of my life. I loved spending it with the children and learning about their culture. I woke

up every morning to the sound of children singing old hymns and chanting, "Wake up Sister Erin, come and play." The most impactful memory is a conversation I had with a little girl named Kafui. She was 13 and had many brothers and sisters, three of whom lived at the orphanage. One morning Kafui and I and a few other children shared a conversation during breakfast. U.S. families were adopting Kafui's three younger siblings, and she was not chosen to go. I asked her how she felt about her siblings leaving. I wondered if she was feeling pain, anxiety or loneliness.

Kafui said, "I'm sad that they are leaving, but God has watched over me so far in my life, and He isn't going to leave me now." I had no words, just tears.

Since I have been home in Virginia my wheels have been spinning non-stop with thoughts of the children. Visiting for two weeks was not nearly enough, and my desire to return is burning. I have a calling to do more than volunteer, and I'm connecting with the non-profit, Orphans' Heroes (www.orphansheroes.com). This group advocates for orphans around the globe. The founder, Jennifer Millett-Barrett, has become a significant friend and mentor in my life. Orphans' Heroes assists fundraising efforts, protects and saves children from

child trafficking, and promotes sponsorship opportunities for abandoned children.

I plan to return to Africa in 2012 to help Orphans' Heroes build awareness about child trafficking and the adoption process in Kenya or Ghana. I also want to help research slave labor. Orphans' Heroes is building a new school in Accra

to house young female sex trafficking victims, and I want to help. I have never felt a passion like I feel for the people of Ghana. What I experienced there will never leave my heart and mind. I feel a compelling charge to make a difference; it's worth everything. **M**



After two volunteer trips to help orphans in Ghana, Erin Frye ('07) says she is addicted to the beautiful people and culture. She is planning a third trip in 2012.



About the Author Erin N. Frye ('07) earned a B.A. in communications with a concentration in public relations. She is director of recruitment for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Richmond & Tri-Cities area of Virginia. She also is a Big Sister and sings and plays guitar with Richmond-based band Brave Bellwether. Frye was a team leader for the Madison Class Challenge and an officer in the JMU chapter of the Association for Women in Communication. She was a Big Sister through the Harrisonburg/Rockingham chapter and served as a JMU first year orientation guide and freshman orientation guide twice. She also was a member of the cappella group Note-oriety.



Critical thinking beyond the classroom

A professor challenging your research can help you find your passion

Q&A with Katie Sensabaugh ('12) and David Owusu-Ansah BY JAMIE MARSH

Katie Sensabaugh ('12) first met JMU professor David Owusu-Ansah at Mad-RUSH, an undergraduate research conference hosted by JMU's College of Arts and Letters. Sensabaugh was one of 100 students from across the East Coast who presented papers on specialized research topics. After Sensabaugh's 20-minute presentation about the harmful consequences of media publicity during the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, ("The Media, the World Cup, and Apartheid"), Owusu-Ansah, professor of history and special assistant to the president for faculty diversity, challenged her findings and took her thinking to a "new level," Sensabaugh says. "I learned as much from a 15-minute conversation with Dr. Owusu-Ansah as spending a semester in research on the same topic."

Jamie Marsh caught up with professor and student, on behalf of Madison magazine, and the conversation continued. And as Sensabaugh shares, the exchange has had a long-term impact on her Madison Experience.

Madison: How did you choose your Mad-RUSH research topic?

Katie Sensabaugh ('12): I wrote my paper for my Media and Politics class. I had visited South Africa and was considering declaring a minor in African studies, but I couldn't find room in my schedule since I already had a double major. I was trying to make my coursework focus on Africa whenever possible.

Madison: And what was the main thing you learned?

Sensabaugh: Basically, I looked at contemporary news accounts arguing that the World Cup had a negative impact on South Africa. Not only were the local people displaced to make way for massive stadium projects, but most of the money went to international corporations rather than local entrepreneurs. South Africa could have spent money on improving low-income housing, for example, rather than building infrastructure for the event. As for media coverage, the only taste of African culture that the everyday tourist or television viewer

TRANSFORMATIONS

received was the sound of the vuvuzela, and even that was limited.

Madison: Were you expecting feedback at Mad-RUSH?

Sensabaugh: Yes, that's part of the conference program, but I didn't know an African history expert was in the room! I called my mom right after the conference because Dr. Owusu-Ansah really made me think about my work. While he commended many of my thoughts, I realized that I hadn't grasped the full picture in my research. He said my findings may be true, but argued the World Cup was still a huge step forward.

Madison: Professor Owusu-Ansah, can you expand on that?

David Owusu-Ansah: First, let me say Katie did a great job and her findings are valid. My comments focused on why the authorities in South Africa saw the successful conduct of the game to be important. Psychologically, it proved two things: that Africa was capable of conduct and planning usually reserved for advanced economies. They said, 'We can do what Brazil and the United Emirates have done. We can make an air-conditioned stadium in a desert.' Second, it showed that black political leaders were as able as the white minority government in managing large-scale events. Everyone expected the project to explode, but that didn't happen. It did a lot for the psychology of South Africans.

Sensabaugh: Those comments made me think more long term. All the literature I read was so negative, but Professor Owusu-

'I learned as much from a 15-minute conversation with Dr. Owusu-Ansah as spending a semester in research on the same topic.'

— KATIE SENSABAUGH ('12)



Katie Sensabaugh ('12), says a 15-minute conversation with history professor David Owusu-Ansah after the 2011 Mad-RUSH conference helped solidify her passion for studying Africa and question her thoroughness in research.

Ansah cited future benefits from the increase in nationalism and pride.

Owusu-Ansah: Exactly! Even though people were forced out of their homes to build a stadium, I questioned whether it was a total waste of national resources. The poor also got many miles of roads, temporary construction jobs, opportunities to sell goods, and the psychological relief of accomplishing what they said they could do. For the poor, maybe the long-term benefits will outweigh the immediate.

Madison: Katie, how has this conversation affected your studies?

Sensabaugh: It helped confirm that I am really passionate about South Africa, so I've continued seeking ways to study the nation. After graduation, I hope to work at South Africa's famous Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Madison: Is this type of intellectual exchange common for undergrads at JMU?

Sensabaugh: Oh yes. I've had the chance to have conversations with many experts where I'm treated on an equal playing field. If you come prepared, most professors will have one-on-one conversations with you, anytime.

Owusu-Ansah: Even though JMU is a big university, operation-wise, we don't think of ourselves that way. We look for students to work with side-by-side, to have graduate-level kinds of interactions. This is the

kind of student whom I, as a professor, always want to nurture. ■

* Learn more at www.jmu.edu/cal/MadRush2011.shtml.

About Mad-RUSH Sponsored by the JMU School of Liberal Arts, the second-annual Mad-RUSH Undergraduate Research Conference featured more than 80 students from 19 universities from the District of Columbia, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts and Virginia. Students shared undergraduate research in the humanities and social sciences. J. Chris Arndt, JMU Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, says, "Carefully guided by dedicated faculty, students produce professional caliber research for Mad-RUSH that demonstrates outstanding skills in critical thinking, writing and oral communication. Their research projects not only reveal the vitality of the humanities and social sciences in considering the big questions that face each generation, but this research provides students with the tools to respond to these questions." In addition to the generous support of the JMU College of Arts and Letters, Mad-RUSH is sponsored by the JMU departments of English; Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures; History; Philosophy and Religion; and Sociology and Anthropology.

Challace McMillin made me a better person

Charged up about sports performance and passionate about students

BY DARIAN PARKER ('01, '03M)

When I came to JMU in the fall of 1996, I had already traveled the world as part of a military family. Naturally, I thought JMU would be just another stop, another notch on my belt of worldly experiences. Instead, I found a place I could call home for the first time in my life, and much of that has to do with one man in particular.

During my sophomore year, as I was sketching out my class schedule for the upcoming junior year, I overheard some students talking about a professor who was passionate about sports performance. That's all I needed to hear, because I decided to major in kinesiology because of my own passion for teaching others how to be physically active and my own wonder at how my body worked.

I enrolled in Challace McMillin's class, Coaching Principles, and almost immediately connected to his old-school teaching style. He loved using the overhead projector when everyone else seemed to use PowerPoint.

I sat in the front during all of his classes and enjoyed watching him get fired up about pretty much every issue related to coaching sports. He was tough but kind; straight-forward but completely professional.

I decided in his class that I wanted to be like him — as a teacher, mentor and coach — so I took several of his classes while getting



Professor Emeritus of Kinesiology Challace McMillin was named an honorary JMU alumnus in 2003. As JMU's first football coach, McMillin recruited his original 1972 team from class registration lines and other varsity teams. He led JMU to its first national ranking (No. 9) in 1978 and went on to coach three future NFL All-Pro players. Former JMU Athletics Director Dean Ehlers called McMillin "an exceptional individual and an outstanding Christian."



my bachelor's and master's degrees. While serving as his graduate assistant during my master's studies, I got to know Coach McMillin as more than a teacher; I learned that he is a wonderfully kind man.

He taught me so much about himself but even more about myself. I learned how to become a more respectful, diligent and determined person. Every weekday when I went to his office to help grade papers and write notes for his classes, I admired the degrees on his wall. I was particularly fascinated with his doctoral degree, hanging there all huge on his wall. All I could think about was how I would never be

able to attain something like that because I was not smart enough. Dr. McMillin helped to change that poor attitude.

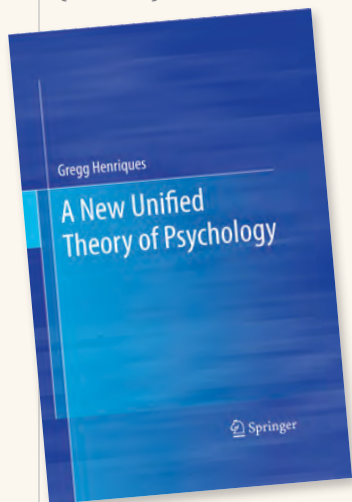
After seven wonderful years in Harrisonburg, I physically moved on from JMU, but my mind and spirit continue to think back to all the special people who helped shape me. Now, I'm general manager of a thriving high-end and exclusive fitness facility in Las Vegas. Like Dr. McMillin, I have my degrees hanging on my office wall. In addition to my JMU degrees is my Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Yes, UNLV was another journey that added

to my life experiences. I had some good professors and some great times. Yet, nothing, and I mean nothing, compares to my Madison Experience and my time with Dr. McMillin. Thank you, Dr. McMillin, for changing my life forever. **M**

About the Professor Professor Emeritus of Kinesiology and JMU's first football coach Challace McMillin has been a mentor to generations of student-athletes and an inspiration to many students who become coaches themselves because of his example. He coached JMU football from 1972 to 1984. JMU's McMillin Center for Sport Psychology is named in his honor. The center's mission mirrors the coach's philosophy and supports student-athletes, coaches and parents in achieving success in sports and life. The Challace McMillin Academic Performance Center is also named for him. In 1999, McMillin received the James Madison Distinguished Faculty Award.

About the Author Darian Parker graduated from JMU with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology in 2001 and then completed his masters at JMU in kinesiology in 2003. He received a Ph.D. in sports education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is the general manager of Club Ridges, a private residential fitness property at The Ridges Community in Las Vegas. He also is a regional account specialist for WTS, a spa, fitness and recreation management and consulting company. Parker, a certified personal trainer, founded Connect to Fitness, a wellness networking group in 2009.

{Books}



A New Unified Theory of Psychology

BY **GREGG HENRIQUES**; SPRINGER, 2011; ISBN: 978-1-4614-0057-8

Concern about psychology's fragmentation is not new, but for the past decade there have been increasing calls for psychologists to acknowledge the costs associated with fragmentation and to search for ways to unify the discipline. JMU Professor of Psychology Gregg Henriques introduces a new system that addresses psychology's current theoretical and philosophical difficulties. Henriques directs JMU's Combined-Integrated Doctoral Program in Clinical and School Psychology. His unified theory consists of four interlocking pieces that provide a macro-level view that clarifies the nature of psychology's problems and offers a clear way to unify the various elements of the field. Rutgers University Psychology Professor Daniel Fishman says, "Henriques' [book] is ... one of the most cogent, scholarly, sophisticated, beautifully reasoned, clearly articulated, and accessibly written presentations of a unified theory in psychology." Learn more at <http://psychweb.cisat.jmu.edu/ToKSystem/>.

* www.springer.com/psychology/book/978-1-4614-0057-8

Confronting Al Qaeda: New Strategies to Combat Terrorism

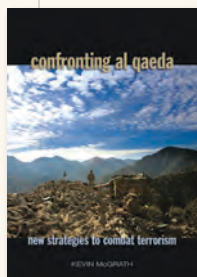
BY **KEVIN MCGRATH** ('95)
NAVAL INSTITUTE PRESS, 2010
ISBN 978-1-59114-503-5

A history major from Washington, D.C., Kevin McGrath ('95) is a senior analyst with a global intel-

ligence and risk management firm. Offering a new strategic U.S. approach to Al Qaeda, McGrath proposes policy options for confronting terrorism. He

asserts that Al Qaeda is primarily a political threat, rather than a military one, that challenges the very nature of the U.S. political system and therefore requires a political response. He argues that while coercive means are necessary to reduce Al Qaeda's capacity for violence, a coercive approach alone is insufficient. He contends the U.S. must politically undercut Al Qaeda by addressing key political disputes that fuel the U.S.-Al Qaeda conflict. In a positive June 2011 review, the *New York Journal of Books* states, "McGrath deploys a deft hand in helping us decipher the complexity of [the struggle with Al Qaeda]."

* www.usni.org/store/books/history/confronting-al-qaeda



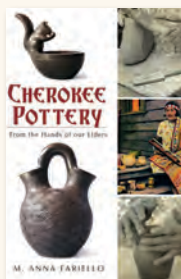
Cherokee Pottery

BY **ANNA FARIELLO** ('93M)
THE HISTORY PRESS, 2011
ISBN: 978-1-60949-057-7

Anna Fariello ('93M) is an associate research professor at Western Carolina University's Hunter Library. She traces the designs and patterns of Cherokee pottery as they have developed over centuries and into contemporary times. Her book includes archival and new images of pots and potters. Fariello also published *Cherokee Basketry* (2009). Both books are part of the From the "Hands of our Elders" series, and were funded in part through the Cherokee Preservation Foundation. The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership awarded

Fariello a \$24,998 grant to fund an online component of mountain potteries and Cherokee potters.

* www.historypress.net

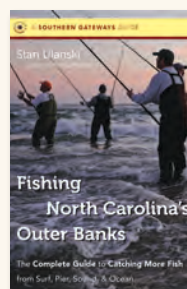


Fishing North Carolina's Outer Banks

BY **STAN L. ULANSKI**
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS 2011
ISBN-13: 978-0-8078-7207-9

JMU Professor of Geology and Environmental Science Stan Ulan-

ski is a passionate angler who has fished all along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. His latest book is a how-to guide to fishing the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Ulanski links



recreational fishing to the biology, geography and natural history of the region. He also reveals the best approaches to the Outer Banks' six main angling scenarios: surf, pier, sound, offshore, inshore, and reef and shipwreck fishing. The book includes illustrated fish profiles for 35 of the area's game fish and six of Ulanski's favorite recipes.

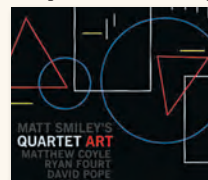
* www.uncpress.unc.edu/browse/book_detail?title_id=2223

{Music}

Quartet Art

BY **MATT SMILEY** ('07)
ZACH DIAZ/SOULSPAZM
DIGITAL, 2011

Matt Smiley ('07) of Fort Collins, Colo., released *Quartet Art* with JMU alums Matthew Coyle ('06), percussionist, and Josh Reed ('07), trumpeter. The CD also features JMU saxophone professor David Pope. Smiley, a music major and jazz minor, performs bass on his jazz-influenced debut. Smiley says the album is a "journey in soundscapes, half composed and half improvised."



The CD runs the gamut of soft ballads and energetic tunes

to sonic adventures like the title track. Smiley wrote 13 of the 14 songs and enjoys a regular gig at a Colorado's Ace Gillett's.

* <http://soulspazm.com/digital/QuartetArt>

A Second Chance

BY **LAWRENCE OLDS QUARTET, LAWRENCE OLDS** ('88)
SOUL SYNC RECORDS, 2010

Former JMU football player and political science major Lawrence Olds ('88) of Richmond, Va., released his debut jazz CD, *A Second Chance*, with the Lawrence Olds Quartet. Olds provides vocals and also mixed the 10-song set list of jazz and blues standards.

* www.LawrenceOlds.com



Alumni News



33 weddings, 6 beaches and 15,000 miles!

Road Dawg is one popular pup

Since his first alumni outing on July 28, 2007, when Road Dawg traveled a 700-mile round trip to Corolla Beach, N.C., *Madison* magazine's popular mascot has logged more than 15,000 miles. On Aug. 28, 2010, Road Dawg traveled to his farthest point north, joining 30 alumni to celebrate the wedding of Stephanie Mortimer ('06) and Matthew Brown ('06) in Rye, N.H. The bridal party included maid of honor Katharine Corgan ('06, '11M), and bridesmaids Megan Bellino ('06) and Meagan Ireland Poore ('06). "We were thrilled that so many of our JMU family were able to share in our big day, and Road Dawg was a big hit," says Stephanie. She and Matt honeymooned in Greece and currently live in Arlington, Va.

On March 5, Road Dawg made a surprise appearance at the engagement party of Jamie Richards ('07) and Dustin Didawick ('06) in Staunton, Va. "Dustin and I were absolutely blown away to see Road Dawg," says Jamie. "I told anyone who

would listen about his story and how alumni can borrow him for events. I made sure to point out his Dolley and Jemmy tattoo, as well. All of our guests wore purple clothing and purple and gold beads. Even a few Va. Tech alumni friends joined in the purple theme. Now that is love." Jamie and Dustin enjoyed their purple and gold wedding on Aug. 6. "Road Dawg was at another alumni wedding, so I'm glad he could share in our engagement party," says Jamie. **■**

Always the center of attention: Everyone scream Road Dawg! More than 30 alumni celebrate the wedding of Stephanie Mortimer ('06) and Matthew Brown ('06).



Road Dawg attacks the hot wings tray after surprising Jamie Richards ('07) and Dustin Didawick ('06) at their engagement party.

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{Centennial Gift}

\$100K for 100 years

JMU Alumni Association gives \$100,000

By JAMES IRWIN ('06)

JMU places a heavy emphasis on involvement — on the idea that a Madison graduate can make a tremendous impact on society. And JMU grads prove that every day by doing great things in their communities. As JMU celebrates the 100th anniversary of its first graduating class, the JMU Alumni Association has taken this unique opportunity to recognize its alumni and thank the people who made the last century possible.

The JMU Alumni Association began the celebration of its 100th birthday in early June by making a gift commitment of \$100,000 to the JMU Foundation. The commitment, which came a month after 3,400 new graduates became JMU alumni, will help fund three endeavors as JMU alumni enter their second century. Funds from the gift will help

'Visiting Alumni Centennial Park will be a new tradition for all alumni, now and in the future.'

— AJ FISCHER ('92),
Past-president of the JMU
Alumni Association

develop the JMU Alumni Association Centennial Scholarship Endowment, commission the official portrait of JMU President Linwood H. Rose after his retirement in 2012, and dedicate and improve Alumni Centennial Park — located on the grounds between the Leeolou Alumni Center and East Campus Library.

"Visiting Alumni Centennial Park will be a new tradition for all alumni,

now and in the future," says AJ Fischer ('92), immediate past-president of the JMU Alumni Association. Fischer made the formal gift announcement during the June JMU Board of Visitors meeting. "We are also honored to thank President Rose for all of the progress alumni have witnessed during his tenure. Lastly, and most importantly, the endowed scholarships will help students become alumni and realize the success of graduation."

The alumni association officially celebrates its centennial on Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 30–Oct. 2.

* For more information on JMU Alumni Association history and Homecoming Weekend, and to register, visit www.jmu.edu/homecoming.



The JMU Alumni Association is celebrating 100 years with a \$100,000 gift to JMU, which will fund several projects including the Alumni Centennial Park, located between the Leeolou Alumni Center and the East Campus Library.



{Senior Traditions}

2011 Senior Candle-lighting ceremony

The JMU Alumni Association grows ever year, and in May it welcomed more than 3,400 members to the family as the Class of 2011 received their degrees. During Senior Convocation classmates heard from Student Ambassador Kristen Alexander ('11) and key-note speaker Laren Poole, founder of Invisible Children Inc. Seniors then made their way from the Convo to the steps at the Integrated Science and Technology building, where AJ Fischer ('92) and Kathleen Lee ('11) led a candle lighting ceremony inducting the Class of 2011 into the alumni association. **Read Alexander's speech on Page 50.**

Speaker Laren Poole and the Senior Candle-lighting ceremony capped off Senior week.



{Alumni Association}

Countdown to Homecoming 2011!

100 years, 100 days, 100 Dukes

By JAMES IRWIN ('06)

When you open this issue of *Madison* magazine, it will be about 45 days until Homecoming 2011. And this year is special. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the JMU Alumni Association. To commemorate this special birthday, the JMU Office of Alumni Relations created a website to celebrate some notable alumni who have taken their Madison Experience and used it to change the world. For 100 days — from June 23 to Sept. 30 — the website features 100 Dukes who have made a lasting impression on the Madison community. Celebrate this century of Madison alumni by visiting the "100 Years, 100 Days, 100 Dukes" web page at www.jmu.edu/link/alumni100.

Inspiration fuels involvement

With 100 years of JMU alumni there are myriad ways to connect to Madison

By JAMIE JONES MILLER ('99), ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

As a longtime volunteer for JMU, I am constantly discovering people, places and things that inspire me to stay involved with Madison. My favorite annual event is Bluestone Reunion Weekend, which honors alumni celebrating their 50th class reunion. It is impressive how many women (and men) come back to campus to visit with their classmates and to see how the institution has transformed since they were students of Madison College.

At this year's Bluestone Reunion, I met Nancy Harbaugh Gibson-Geiger ('44) of Woodstock, Va. She is a founding member of my sorority, Alpha Sigma Tau. She mentioned that she was hoping to find a "good home" for her sorority badge — the same badge that she wore as a founding member of the Madison chapter of Alpha Sigma Tau. She mailed me her badge for safekeeping, and I hope that it will find a home on display in the archives at the sorority's National Headquarters one day. While it is under my care, I will be inspired by the leadership and dedication displayed by the young women who founded the Psi Chapter at Madison almost 70 years ago.

Inspiration fuels involvement. To me, this sentence sums up what it means to be JMU alumni volunteers. It captures the emotional ties to the university that bring alumni back to campus, spark participation in an alumni chapter, and bring strangers together for an event that supports JMU.

You can't help but be inspired when you see Wilson Hall from the Quad, Bridgeforth Stadium rising high above campus, or the statue of James Madison, "Big Jim," looking out over the Shenandoah Valley from the east side of campus.



JMU Alumni Association Board President Jamie Jones Miller ('99) is legislative director for U.S. Congressman Rob Wittman (Republican representative for Virginia's 1st District). This summer, Miller participated in an alumni panel discussion for the JMU Department of Political Science's annual day on Capitol Hill. She is married to Timothy M. Miller ('96, 'OOM), and lives in Vienna, Va.

the 100 years of JMU alumni. The website (www.jmu.edu/alumni/awards/centennial.shtml) features stories of trailblazers like Inez Roop ('35), educator, scholarship founder and distinguished university ambassador. It is our hope that Mrs. Roop's story — and the other 99 alumni — inspires you to follow in her footsteps.

'The JMU Alumni Association and alumni board volunteers challenge you to turn your JMU inspiration into involvement. Check out "100 years, 100 Days, 100 Dukes," a campaign to help celebrate the 100 years of JMU alumni.'

— JAMIE JONES MILLER ('99),
JMU Alumni Association Board President

When you're not on campus, inspiration may come from a colleague whom you discover is also a JMU grad or from seeing a JMU license plate on a road trip. Purple Pride also wells up when talking to someone whose son or daughter is considering applying to JMU, or spotting someone wearing a JMU T-shirt running next to you in a 5K race.

This summer I was inspired by a group of students and recent JMU graduates I met at the annual JMU Department of Political Science Day on Capitol Hill. I joined three JMU alumni on a panel to discuss "Living and Working in Washington, D.C." In addition to attending the panel discussion, the students and graduates scheduled informational interviews with fellow Dukes on the Hill and attended a networking reception. The participants had impressive resumes and were outstanding ambassadors for JMU students and alumni to potential employers.

The JMU Alumni Association Board volunteers challenge you to turn your JMU inspiration into involvement. Check out "100 Years, 100 Days, 100 Dukes," a campaign to celebrate

the 100 years of JMU alumni. The website (www.jmu.edu/alumni/awards/centennial.shtml) features stories of trailblazers like Inez Roop ('35), educator, scholarship founder and distinguished university ambassador. It is our hope that Mrs. Roop's story — and the other 99 alumni — inspires you to follow in her footsteps.

This fall you'll be introduced to JMU LOVE — a movement to build alumni involvement by developing Leaders of Volunteer Engagement. JMU LOVE will open doors to engagement opportunities for you across the university. I hope that you will step through those doors and let your inspiration fuel your involvement. **m**

{Be the Change}

Double renewal

Baltimore/Annapolis alumni clean up Inner Harbor BY MARTHA GRAHAM

Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter members, many decked out in purple sweatshirts to ward off a chilly sea breeze, gathered for an alumni event they called Harbor Clean-up Day.

The Chesapeake Bay is the largest estuary in the United States, but because the Bay is surrounded by 15 million people, its health is an ongoing concern, not only as the critically important habitat for thousands of living organisms but for the quality of water and life of those who live there.

Nearly 20 JMU alumni who live in the Bay area braved chilly March winds to lend a hand to the enormous and important job of cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. Parents of a current JMU student also participated in the event, which was part of a Wetlands Restoration Project sponsored by the Baltimore-based Living Classrooms Foundation. "We assisted with cleaning the last wetland in the city of Baltimore by picking up trash in and around it," says Rebekah Porter ('03), Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter president. The wetland, she added, is vulnerable because it is located near storm drains, and run off from the city ends up in the wetlands.

"Nearly 5,000 JMU alumni live in the Baltimore area," Porter adds. "Alumni got down and dirty by picking up unwanted trash and debris that was ruining not only the aesthetic of

the Baltimore Harbor but also contributing to the overall pollution of the Chesapeake Bay."

While the Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter chose the project to help their community, these service-minded alumni also spent a day renewing friendships. Each year, the chapter hosts numerous social, service, scholarship and community service events, from athletics outings to wine tastings.

In addition to Harbor Clean-up Day, the chapter has participated in service events with the Maryland Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity. They are actively raising funds to establish a scholarship for a deserving JMU student from the area, as well. In June, the chapter members' efforts were recognized at

the annual Madison Alumni Conference where the Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter was named the 2011 Alumni Chapter of the Year.

"We care about the community because we are all a part of it," says Eve Brecker ('09). "The JMU experience is what initially brings us together, but creating positive change in the Baltimore metro area helps us strengthen old bonds with new activities while supporting a place we all live in together."

Porter adds, "It was great to see recent and past alumni get together and take a few hours out of their Saturday to help give back to the community that they love so much. We find that, more so than almost any other type of event, JMU alums of all different ages and backgrounds come out to serve the community." ■

Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter President Rebekah Porter ('03) says, "It was great to see recent and past alumni get together and take a few hours out of their Saturday to give back to the community that they love so much."



'We care about the community because we are part of it.'

— EVE BRECKER ('09)



You are part of JMU's first century of alumni. Don't miss Homecoming 2011 as the Madison community celebrates the JMU Alumni Association's 100th birthday!

Celebrate 100 years of alumni

Come to Homecoming
Sept. 30 – Oct. 2

- Celebrate at the 100th birthday bash at the Festival Conference Center
- Cheer on the Dukes vs. Richmond
- Attend other events, like the Pep Rally and the *Full Frame 100: Celebrating Madison Alumni Photographers* exhibit
- Check out the Harrisonburg Downtown Spirit Contest
- Attend special reunions and activities

www.jmu.edu/homecoming

Count down to Homecoming:

100 Years, 100 days, 100 Dukes
and join in all the excitement

www.jmu.edu/homecoming

More
online

Use your QR code app



Madison Spirit: Express Yourself!

Capture the spirit of JMU in a photo and celebrate Homecoming and the JMU Alumni Association 100th anniversary. Submit your photo that captures the Madison Experience: the beauty, the people and the spirit of JMU.

Email photos to publicaffairs@jmu.edu Aug. 1–31. Then get ready to “Like” the photos in a special Facebook album Sept. 1–22. Follow the online rules and you could win prizes, a spot in the professional *Full Frame 100: Celebrating Madison Alumni Photographers* exhibit at Homecoming and be published in *Madison*!

Need more details or help planning a reunion?
Call (888) JMU-ALUM or email us at alumni_link@jmu.edu.

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

MADISON
HOMEcoming 2011

{Study Abroad Reunion}

Semester in Florence celebrates 25 years

— *Perchè No!* BY JUDY COHEN

Semester in Florence alumni! Make plans now to join in the 25th-anniversary celebration of JMU's Semester in Florence program. From November 12–13 you can get a head start on giving thanks by coming to the Shenandoah Valley for recollection and reconnection with former Florentines. Whether you were part of that pioneer group from spring 1986, a student in the program's most recent semester, or a participant from any of the years in between, you will have a chance to muse on what your time in Florence meant to you and how it still informs your life.

The JMU Office of International Programs staff have planned a weekend of fun for the anniversary. Event options include:

- Saturday lunch and video presentation
- Saturday tour of East Campus
- Saturday football game JMU vs. University of Rhode Island
- Saturday visit to a local winery
- Saturday evening dinner
- Sunday brunch and tour of the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts

Special rates are available at the Residence Inn by Marriott for Friday and Saturday nights. Enjoy all this in the company of Semester in Florence directors, faculty-members-in-residence and your Florence alumni friends from days gone by. Our honored guests from Florence will be Alessandro Gentili and his wife, Christine, marking their own 25-year involvement with the program.

Registration is limited, so plan now! For additional details and booking options, visit www.jmu.edu/international or www.jmu.edu/alumni/events and click on the online calendar. Or, contact

Judy Cohen in the JMU Office of International Programs at cohenjk@jmu.edu or (540) 568-6979. **m**

* Read about Angel Elza's ('10) Semester in Florence at www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/my-semester-in-Florence.shtml.

Semester in Florence alumni, it's time to dust off the scrapbooks, find the photos of friends, brush up on your Italian and get back to the 'Burg for the 25th anniversary reunion on Nov. 12–13. Registration is limited, so start planning now.



Drive home the Purple Pride!

When you buy a JMU license plate, **\$15** of the \$25 annual fee is transferred to JMU for Legacy Scholarships. Choose either design: Duke Dog or the JMU seal.

You've got the JMU sweatshirt and the purple water bottle. You may even own the Purple Pride flip flops. Why not get a JMU license plate and support JMU scholarships? A portion of the purchase price from Virginia's Department of Motor Vehicles supports the JMU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship fund. Show your spirit and help fund education at JMU. In 2009–10, the alumni association awarded \$49,000 in scholarships to 48 legacy students.



Get your JMU plate today at www.jmu.edu/alumni/plate

2011 Bluestone Reunion Weekend



Graduates of the Classes of 1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956 and 1961 returned to campus for Bluestone Reunions April 28–May 1 for a weekend of reconnecting with classmates, touring campus and sharing Madison memories. Reunion participants and visitors dined in the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts, enjoyed a performance by the Madison Singers, shared their rule-breaking memories at the annual Madison Confessional, toured downtown landmarks and shared memorabilia during their visit to campus.

"I even wrote about our reunion in a column I write for our neighborhood newsletter," says Sara Chinn Harrison ('61). "My Bluestone Reunion was splendid. I was very much impressed and am still telling neighbors, friends and family about it."



Alumni shared many Madison memories during Bluestone Reunions 2011 in April. Lunches, the Bluestone Induction Ceremony, the Madison Confessional and checking out memorabilia like old *Breeze* issues topped the list of reunion fun.



Members of the Class of 1961, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of their graduation, were inducted into the Bluestone Society on April 30 and made a gift of \$95,828.25 to the university.

Class of 1961 Committee Chair Aida Deluca Boyle says, "I came home feeling so proud and grateful for everyone who had a hand in making my 50th reunion so special. Thank you all for a weekend that was memorable and outstanding in every way." ❧

Bluestone Reunion Weekend 2012

Mark your calendar for 2012 Bluestone Reunion Weekend. Alumni from the Class of 1962: You're next! Start planning now and return to campus April 26–29, 2012, to celebrate your 50th reunion. If you are a member of the Class of 1962, 1957, 1952, 1947, 1942 or 1937 and want to help plan Bluestone Reunions 2012, contact the alumni office. Join the committee or help rally classmates to attend by calling (888) 568-2586 or emailing alumni_link@jmu.edu.



MadisonEvents

AUGUST 24

2011 JMU Family Legacy Picnic
www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

SEPTEMBER 3

Road football tailgate at UNC
www.JMUSports.com

SEPTEMBER 6

Harrisonburg Alumni Chapter Kickball Team
www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

SEPTEMBER 10

Rocky Mountain Dukes Crab Pick
www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

SEPT. 30 – OCT. 2

2011 Homecoming and JMU Alumni Association 100th
www.jmu.edu/homecoming

OCTOBER 14–16

2011 Family Weekend
www.jmu.edu/parents

OCTOBER 22

MetroDukes D.C. Crabfest 2011
www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

OCTOBER 29

Road football tailgate at ODU
www.JMUSports.com

DECEMBER 17

Winter Commencement
www.jmu.edu/commencement

www.jmu.edu/alumni/calendar

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

Family Weekend is Oct. 14–16

DON'T MISS ALL THE JMU FAMILY FUN.

Register early since many of the ticketed events sell out quickly!

www.jmu.edu/parents/Family_Weekend.shtml

For football tickets contact the JMU Athletic Ticket Office at (540) 568-3853, or www.jmusports.com

{Senior Convocation}

JMU is home

Madison, Mappys and my Senior Convocation speech BY KRISTIN ALEXANDER ('11)

1,353 days ago we all sat together in this exact location for the first time. Today, we sit here as the Class of 2011, for the last time. Entering JMU, most of the faces in this room were unfamiliar and the names of the random people you became friends with on Facebook were just that — names of strangers. Today, that has changed. Today, you can walk around campus and share a smile with another member of our class for no reason. Today, you can be in an airport halfway across the world and hear a “Go Dukes” from a member of the JMU community. Today, that random person you “friended” in the summer before freshman year because you were both in the “JMU Class of 2011” Facebook group might still be a random person whom you share an awkward interaction with because you know you’re both friends on Facebook, but not in real life. ... But I digress.

The point is, we came here as strangers, but the past 1,353 days have changed that. Those days have given us shared experiences — in the classroom, in the community and in different places across the world. Those shared experiences do not have to stop simply because our time as Madison students is coming to a close.

When we first arrived at JMU, we were all given our JMU *Mappy* and told that it was our guide to 1787 Orientation. What if that *Mappy* was our guide to our four, or more, years at Madison?

‘Those shared experiences do not have to stop simply because our time as Madison students is coming to a close.’

— KRISTIN ALEXANDER ('11)



(Above): Student Ambassador Kristin Alexander ('11) delivered the Senior Convocation student speech after her JMU *Mappy* themed speech was chosen by the commencement committee.



system. Along with that would be a tip advising you not to punch a hole in your JACard and hang it around your neck with a lanyard. Most of us would ignore this tip. After a trip home for the summer, you started to realize that you had come to think of JMU as your home.

Being away from campus would make you realize the things you took for granted, like the way people hold doors open and always seem to be happy. Sophomore year on your *Mappy* would be indicated by Bridgeforth Stadium. During this time, you were proud to wear your Class of 2011 shirt and may have perfected your streamer throwing techniques. Regardless of your interest in sports, you fully appreciated the exciting game-day atmosphere.

During junior year, academics seemed to be in the forefront of everyone’s mind. Most of us were immersed in classes for our major and the Club Carrier Library vs. Club East Campus Library battle was in full force. ECL held a rave that made news

around the country, earning a marker for our junior year.

The Quad would designate senior year on your *Mappy*. It’s the oldest area on campus. As seniors we could enjoy the entirety of it, for the first time. As senioritis fully set in, days lounging on the Quad were relished like never before.

So now what? Do we receive a *Mappy* for real life as we walk across the stage on Saturday? Unfortunately, the odds of that are not in our favor. The thing is, we don’t need them. Our four years at JMU have equipped us with everything we need to succeed — lifelong friendships, knowledge of our strengths, passion and enough free T-shirts to be able to avoid doing laundry for at least a month.

We can’t stop the time from ticking, but we can make sure the memories are with us forever. Using the past as our guide, we can surely embrace whatever it is that comes next. The important thing is to not be scared. Know that you are prepared and have the support of the entire Madison community for the rest of your life. **M**

{ Alumni Involvement }

2011 Madison Alumni Conference

More than 60 alumni volunteers and leaders returned to campus in June for the CASE award-winning Madison Alumni Conference. Participants traveled from as far away as Texas and Florida and enjoyed a weekend of leadership, team building and fun. Master of Ceremonies J.R. Snow ('99, '08M) presented the conference awards on Saturday night:

Chapter Leader of the Year:

Martha Buchta ('01), North Carolina Triangle Alumni Chapter

Alumni Chapter of the Year:

Baltimore/Annapolis Alumni Chapter

Alumni Volunteer of the Year:

Nancy Propst ('97), Richmond Alumni Chapter

Most Innovative Program:

Marching Royal Dukes, Alumni Band Day

Most Improved Chapter:

MetroDukes Chapter/Richmond Alumni Chapter. 🏆

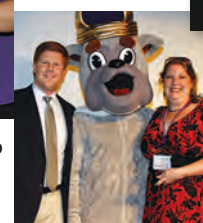


MetroDukes Heather Cote and Stephanie Marino (Most Improved Chapter), Eve Brecker (Chapter of the Year Baltimore/Annapolis); and Chapter Leader of the Year Martha Buchta (N.C. Triangle).

The Marching Royal Dukes won Most Innovative Program honors for Alumni Band Day.



Nancy Propst ('97) of the Richmond Alumni Chapter won Alumni Volunteer of the Year.



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class

Stay in touch, get involved and be Mad cool

34 Harrisonburg Teachers College alumna **Albina Honorata Zarski Schmidt** of Morganville, N.J., celebrated her 98th birthday in February. Schmidt earned a B.S. in education with a concentration in high-school teaching and administration. She remembers shooing away local sheep during field hockey practice. Schmidt was an avid swimmer and athlete who taught in the athletics departments for the New York City Parks Department at Brooklyn's Prospect Park. She taught until 1952 when she married and moved to New Jersey.

36 Margaret Peak Hutcherson of Charlottesville, Va., was the oldest alumna returning to campus for the 2011 **Bluestone Reunion Weekend** in April. She enjoyed her Madison visit, since her grandson and granddaughter — both JMU grads — attended

the Friday luncheon with her. Hutcherson's grandson is **Brian Hutcherson** ('98), also from Charlottesville. He works for State Farm Insurance. Her granddaughter is **Karen Hutcherson Douglas** ('01), a professor of special education at Illinois State University.

40 Mary June Kiser Wood taught home economics for 32 years in Northern Virginia. She is the mother of six children and has 36 grandchildren. Wood is an international flower judge for Disbud Chrysanthemum and has traveled to 59 countries. She is also a charter member of Alpha Sigma Alpha Beta Epsilon.

53 Jazz performer **Harry Jeavons**, aka **Eric Stevens**, was re-elected to the Norfolk Musicians Association Executive Board (Local 125 AFM). He continues his work as a pianist/singer/songwriter.

He also writes performance reviews for *Cabaret Scenes* magazine. He and his wife, **Betty Munson Jeavons** ('53), a retired elementary school teacher, live in Virginia Beach. Learn more about Jeavons at ericstevensblog.com.

65 On March 1, Doris Bragg DuLac and Lurli Phillips Gay ('61) trekked to the top of Machu Picchu in Peru. Gay made sure she was wearing her JMU socks for a photo op!

66 In April, the Women & Girls Fund of the Mid-Shore Community Foundation in Easton, Va., presented **Sara Jane Bennett Davidson** of Powhatan, Va., with its top honor, the Women & Girls Fund Award. "What you give and share comes back to you in more ways than you can imagine," Davidson said in her acceptance speech. Davidson is a retired physical education teacher, coach and guidance counselor in the Queen Anne's County, Md., public school system. She has served as director of the Queen Anne's County Youth Center and as a board member of the county library.



Doris Bragg DuLac ('65) and Lurli Phillips Gay ('61) at the top of Machu Picchu. (Inset): Gay shows off her JMU socks. Go Dukes!

She currently serves on the boards of the Wye River Upper School and the Caroline Nursing Home. Davidson enjoys weekly tennis matches in the spring and fall and plays golf with her husband, Richard. She also stays in touch with JMU Professor Emerita of Physical Education Leotus "Lee" Morrison. Learn more about Davidson's award at www.womenandgirlsfund.org.



Margaret Peak Hutcherson ('36) shares some JMU family time at 2011 Bluestone Reunion Weekend with her grandson Brian Hutcherson ('98) and granddaughter Karen Hutcherson Douglas ('01).

Class of '62: Make plans now to be on campus for your **50th reunion**

50th reunion April 26-29, 2012!
For more info, call (540) 568-6234

Stay in touch

To submit a class note or emeriti note to appear in *Madison*, read the instructions and fill out the form on the inside back cover or email madisonmag@jmu.edu

Bridging the gap between poverty and success

JMU Centennial Scholar is Richmond Alternative School Teacher of the Year

By GABRIELLE PICCININNI ('11)

Arriving at work before 8 a.m., **Ashley Mitchell ('09)** starts each day with a "sponge." By the time students arrive in their classrooms an hour later, Mitchell is ready and waiting to give a "sponge lecture" — a review of the previous day's lessons. This quick "snap-shot" review, as Mitchell calls it, eases students into each new lesson and gives them the confidence to tackle new assignments and explore new concepts.

Mitchell began teaching with Community Education Partners in Richmond, Va., in 2009 and was named the 2011 Teacher of the Year by the Richmond Alternative School of Richmond Public Schools.

The English major and women's studies minor credits her Madison Experience and involvement with the Harrisonburg community for her career success. For three consecutive summers prior to her freshman year, Mitchell participated in JMU's African-American Female Institute for Learning and Development. After her first summer in 2001, Mitchell knew JMU was the place for her. "The Female Institute program gave me a sense of value," she says.

As an undergraduate Mitchell was a member of JMU's Centennial Scholars Program, which helps recruit and retain underrepresented students. Established in 2004, CSP's goal is to select students from various backgrounds to diversify JMU's student population. These students are often first-generation college students with strong financial needs and an even stronger drive to learn.

"I was blessed to be part of this phenomenal program," says Mitchell. "CSP [helped me] accomplish my dream of going to college and making something of myself."

The Centennial Scholars Program incorporates various programs to ease the transition into college. These include the Student Administrator Instructional Faculty Partnership Program, the Zie Rivers Academic Mentoring Program, the Family Network and the CSP Buddy System.



Ashley Mitchell ('09) says that the JMU Centennial Scholars Program helped "bridge the gap between poverty and academic success." Now the Richmond Alternative School Teacher of the Year is helping at-risk students find their own successes.

"CSP bridged the gap between poverty and academic success," says Mitchell, who continues to celebrate her Madison relationships. She is friends with JMU English professors **Joanne Gabbin** and **Mary Thompson**; **Diane Strawbridge ('80, '02M)**,

CSP director of student retention; as well as staff members in the JMU Office of Equal Opportunity, **James Robinson**, director, and **Lisa Hess**, program administrator.

Through her job with the Community Education Partners, part of the Richmond Alternative School Program, Mitchell works with at-risk students between the ages of 12 and 16. CEP's goal is to help students return to their regular schools once they have improved their academic skills, attendance and behavior.

"I don't think anyone can really be prepared to work with young teenagers, much less alternative teens," says Mitchell. But at the end of each day, any and all frustrations dissolve into insignificant, distant memories, she affirms.

Knowing she changes her students' lives by instilling an appreciation for education is a reward beyond comparison. Mitchell says, "It could be seeing a child who hasn't picked up a book in their life read their first one in my class, or seeing the smiles on my students' faces when they pass the SOLs. It's not just rewarding, it's a blessing."

Mitchell shares a special connection with her students since she is one herself. She is currently enrolled at Virginia Union University, completing her certification to become a reading specialist.

Mitchell says beyond a shadow of a doubt, that wherever her career takes her, she will be involved in "providing direction to young people who are misguided. I've had so many people help me along the way," she adds. "I won't ever be able to repay them, but I can turn around and help other young people go to college, be successful and make a better life for themselves." ■

* Learn more about the JMU Centennial Scholars Program at www.jmu.edu/centscholars/programs.html.

The James Madison Experience

Holladay House owners keep historic inn in the JMU family BY JACQUELYN WALSH ('09)

The smell of fresh chocolate chip cookies wafts through the air as two couples sit in the richly decorated 1830s main parlor of a bed-and-breakfast. It's clear from the couple's conversations that Lewis "Pete" and **Phebe Goode Holladay ('75)**, and **Sam ('97)** and **Sharon Cohen Elswick ('98)** share a passion and responsibility for the historic setting.

The Holladay House Bed & Breakfast was first opened by Pete and Phebe Holladay in 1989. The historic inn is located on Main Street in Orange, Va., just a short trip from dozens of Virginia wineries and historic landmarks. Only three miles from James Madison's estate, Montpelier, the inn is a little over an hour from JMU. The house has witnessed 175 years of American history and hosted visitors like J.E.B. Stuart.

After living in the Metro-D.C. area, Sam and Sharon Elswick desired a change of pace. "We loved the Shenandoah Valley so much we wanted to get back to this type of location," says Sharon. After the Elswicks moved back to Virginia they began to think about owning their own bed-and-breakfast. Sharon quit her job to get hands-on training at an inn and winery. "As soon as we saw the Holladay House, we knew that it could thrive," recalls Sharon. The Elswicks purchased Holladay House in 2006.

The inn has been featured in *The Washington Post* travel section with former guests describing Holladay House as "amazing" and lacking that "Staying-at-Grandma's Vibe." The inn also was featured on HGTV.com and TravelChannel.com for rich Virginia history and illustrious architecture.

Even though the Holladay family biscuits are an HGTV.com "Favorite Recipe" choice, Holladay House certainly is not your grandma's bed-and-breakfast. Breakfasts are made-to-order and feature vegetarian options like veggie breakfast sausage and seasonal fruits straight from a nearby farmers' market.

Typically, Sharon takes care of the baking and Sam does the cooking. When Pete and Phebe ran the inn, Pete was the bread maker. The Elswicks and the Holladays bond through their trials as inn owners and through their common Madison Experiences.

Sam, a history major, credits his Madison Experience for an intellectual awakening. "I would stack the JMU history department against any in the country," he says. "I would not be the person I am today if I had not gone to JMU." Sharon's favorite JMU experiences are her lifelong JMU friends.

JMU's stellar professors make a huge impact, adds Sam. "You can lose your way a little bit while trying to find your path, and they help you make the best decisions."

The Elswicks also enjoy the extended Madison Experience shared with JMU's eponym. "It is a boon to the local area to be so close to the ancestral home of fourth U.S. President James Madison," says Sharon. "We see a lot of JMU alums here."

Holladay House is one of the two oldest standing structures in downtown Orange and is a contributing property to the town's historic district. At the crossroads of historic Routes 15 and 20 – James Madison Highway and Constitution Highway – the inn is a not-to-miss James Madison Experience. And the Elswicks are making the trip easy for Dukes through the "JMU Alumni Deals" program at www.jmu.edu/alumni/shop. The Holladay House Madison Experience includes two nights in the John Madison Suite, tickets to Montpelier, wine tasting passes and a "parting Madison gift."

In the Holladay House main parlor, Sharon and Phebe laugh as they talk about the joys and occasional struggles of running a business with

a spouse. "Pete told us that it is not for the faint of heart," says Sharon. Pete and Phebe's 35-year marriage and Sharon and Sam's collaboration show that it can be done.

The Elswicks' personalities also complement each other's schedules. A morning person, Sharon enjoys cooking her family's favorite breakfast recipes for guests and "breaking bread" with them. Since the inn has so many repeat guests, Sharon says they "keep the menu varied." Pete shares an opposite favorite time of the day – at night when all his guests are "relaxed."

Some Holladay family heirlooms still have a place in the house, including a 100-year-old China cabinet, according to Phebe. Like most inns, each room in the house has a unique name, and in a modern twist, the house offers wireless Internet access.

The Elswicks also take efforts to keep things green. "It's not always easy to keep things green and be environmentally savvy while managing an historic property," says Sharon, "but we do everything we can." ❧

*** Learn more at www.HolladayHouseBandB.com, or get your "Madison Experience Suite Deal" via the JMU Alumni website at jmu.edu/alumni/shop.**



Original Holladay House Bed & Breakfast owners Pete and Phebe Goode Holladay ('75), right, enjoy watching JMU alumni Sam ('97) and Sharon Cohen Elswick ('98) run the successful inn. (Inset): Holladay House is located in downtown Orange, Va., three miles from Montpelier.

67 On April 21, Carolyn Larkins Abitbol represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose at the inauguration of Nova Southeastern University president George L. Hanbury II. A JMU chemistry major, Abitbol is professor of pediatrics and medical director of Pediatric Dialysis at the University of Miami's Holtz Children's Hospital at Jackson Memorial Hospital. She writes, "Dr. Hanbury is a native Virginian and was raised in the Norfolk area where I spent my high-school years. During the ceremony, I was privileged to sit next to the president of Barry University, Sister Linda Bevilacqua, and Dr. Henry Lewis, president of Florida Memorial University, both pillars of our community. I am grateful to Dr. Rose for the privilege of standing in for him."

69 Diane "Dee" Raynes and Barbara Beecham Zinsser ('70) returned to campus to participate in the Morrison-Bruce Center's annual Alumnae Health and Fitness Program and reunion, held each April in conjunction with the university's celebration of **Bluestone Reunion Weekend**. The center's annual program includes lectures and workshops on topics related to nutrition, motivation and the importance of physical activity for women's health. Raynes and Zinsser also visited with

Professor Emerita of Physical Education Lee Morrison and Professor Emerita of Health Sciences Pat Bruce during the weekend. Raynes retired as a physical education teacher and track coach in Northern Virginia. She lives in Lewes, Del.



Barbara Beecham Zinsser ('70) and Diane "Dee" Raynes ('69) conjure up some new Madison memories at Jess' Quick Lunch.

70 JMU tapped Constance Neely Wilson as its first alum inducted into JMU's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Wilson is a board-certified anesthesiologist and critical care physician-scientist, and she presented the keynote for JMU's second class of Phi Beta Kappa students in March. Wilson is a physician/researcher who holds 16 U.S. patents, five pending patents and numerous international patents. She founded the biopharmaceutical company Endacea. * **Barbara**

Beecham Zinsser lives in Melbourne, Fla., with her husband, Jay. The couple lives across the street from former JMU women's volleyball coach **Patricia Sargaent**, who swims competitively in senior competitions. Zinsser visited campus in April with **Dee Raynes ('69)** and the duo participated in the Morrison-Bruce Center's annual Alumnae Health and Fitness Program and grabbed some memorable fare at Jess' Quick Lunch.

73 Hal Howland's novel *Landini Cadence and Other Stories: A Rich Castillo Threesome* is a finalist in the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Story Press published a revised second edition of the novel, which combines the comic tale of roadside sex, murder and dysfunctional family values. Howland is a noted musician and lives in Sugarloaf Key, Fla. Learn more at www.halhowland.com.

76 Donna Pleasants Isaac published her second chapbook of poetry, *Holy Comforter* with Red Bird Chapbooks. Her poetry centers on her spiritual journey growing up in the South. Learn more at www.donnaisaacpoet.com. * **Cathy Chesser Wilt** was named head of the nation's oldest library consortium, the Academy of Natural Sciences. She will lead the library and archives of the nation's oldest natural history museum. Wilt is director of the Academy's Ewell Sale Stewart Library and the Academy Archives. Her 30-year career in libraries has included positions at Drexel University and Ursinus College and with international and national library organizations in Columbus, Ohio, and Dallas, Texas.

77 Billy Sample won the Best (unproduced) Screenplay award at the 2011 Hoboken Film Festival. Sample was the first JMU baseball player drafted by a Major League Baseball team. He was drafted as a junior by the Texas Rangers and was named

to the Topps All Rookie Team in 1979. From 1978 to 1986, he played for the Rangers, New York Yankees (1985) and Atlanta Braves (1986). After retirement Sample worked as a sports broadcaster for the Braves, Seattle Mariners and California Angels. He has contributed to NPR, CBS Radio, ESPN, MLB.com, *Sports Illustrated*, *The New York Times* and *USA Today*. He and his wife, **Debra Evans Sample ('77)**, live in the Township of Washington, N.J.

80 Craig C. Bram joined Synalloy Corp. as chief executive officer in January. Bram and his wife, **Kimberly Gooch Bram ('80)**, are both JMU marketing majors. They live in Richmond, and their youngest son, **Ryan ('14)**, is a rising sophomore at JMU.



Regina Dyanne Blok (M.Ed.'81) congratulates Saybrook University President Mark Shulman.

81 Michael B. Battle ('83M) represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose at the inauguration of McDaniel College's new president Roger Casey on April 16. Battle, a communication studies alumnus and JMU M.B.A. graduate, writes, "Representing JMU at McDaniel College was an enlightening experience. Being so connected to JMU's culture, it is very interesting to see how a small liberal arts school develops and stewards its culture. As an inauguration delegate you share the ceremony with administrators and other alumni delegates from around the country. You soon realize as you chat with the representative of Oxford and Harvard how "young" JMU is and how



Diane "Dee" Raynes ('69) shares some JMU memories with Professor Emerita of Health Sciences Pat Bruce (left) and Professor Emerita of Physical Education Lee Morrison, (right).



Kathleen Railey Puiissen ('81) at Catholic University.

well respected our accomplishments are. It makes you proud to rock the Purple and Gold."

★ On Jan. 14, Regina Dyanne Blok (M.Ed.'81) represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose for the inauguration ceremony of Saybrook University's president Mark Schulman in San Francisco. "I appreciate the opportunity to represent JMU at Saybrook University, an institution which was founded in 1971 to teach and prepare a new generation of graduate students in psychology," writes Blok. "Listening to Dr. Shulman's com-

ments and colloquim faculty interactions, I was reminded of the quality of my JMU graduate classes." ★ On Jan. 25, College of Business alumna **Kathleen Railey Puiissen** represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose at the inauguration celebration for Catholic University's new president John Garvey. "The ceremony was impressive," writes Puiissen. "As a Catholic, it was the highest mass I have ever attended. About 100 clerics and religious attendants resulted in quite a moving event. John Garvey's speech centered on 'Intellect and Virtue,' which poses a very interesting idea for a Catholic university. I am grateful to Dr. Rose for sharing this once-in-a-lifetime event opportunity with JMU alumni."

82 Laura S. "Lolly" Miller is the intergenerational activities director at Generations Crossing in Harrisonburg. The adult and child day-care facility won a grant to implement a one-week pilot summer day camp for children to instill positive attitudes, values and beliefs surrounding the theme of peace-building and cultural diversity. The Virginia Tech Victim's Family Foundation sponsors the grant. Miller is a physical

education major and graduated *cum laude* in the department of kinesiology. ★ JMU communication major **Don Rhymer** is one of the writers of the screenplay for the 2011 3D computer-animated movie *Rio*. The musical comedy is produced by Blue Sky Studios and distributed by 20th Century Fox. The film features the exploits of "Blu," a Spix Macaw from Rio de Janeiro who is unable to fly. Character voices include Jesse Eisenberg, Anne Hathaway, George Lopez and Jake Austin. Rhymer has written several screenplays including *Big Momma's House*, *The Santa Clause 2* and *Agent Cody Banks 2*. He has also produced feature films and written and produced several successful television shows. Rhymer lives in California with his wife, **Kate Walther Rhymer ('81)**.

84 Deborah S. Lung ('95M, '07Psy.D) has been named director of graduate student development and academic success at Pfeiffer University in Charlotte, N.C. Prior to her appointment, Lung served as an assistant professor of psychology and human services at Pfeiffer University's undergraduate campus in Misenheimer, N.C. She continues her private practice serving adults, adolescents and families with various mental health issues. She earned her Doctorate of Psychology in Clinical-School Psychology at JMU in 2007 and her M.A./Ed.S. in JMU's community/agency counseling program in 1995. ★ Early childhood education major **Kim Hundley** of Williamsburg, Va., has been recognized as a National Board Certified teacher. She teaches kindergarten for Williamsburg public schools.

86 Psychology major **Lee Koblenz** has provided voices for hundreds of radio commercials, in addition to on- and off-camera work for television and films. He has also narrated educational films and videos and served as program director and operations manager

for radio stations. In 1979 he was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, a chronic disease of the digestive tract, and has served on the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America Board of Trustees. In 1998 he suffered a near fatal pulmonary embolism, which limits his physical activity. "This didn't stop me from becoming an instructor/trainer for RCN Corp.," he writes. Koblenz is currently writing a book about living with Crohn's disease, in addition to working as a voice coach and media consultant.



Transylvania University's 25th president (left) with Jeffrey A. Harper ('87).

87 On July 15, the National Football Foundation inducted **Charles Haley** into the College Football Hall of Fame. Haley is one of four players selected from the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) for the 2011 College Football Hall of Fame class. The National Football Foundation, founded in 1996, has inducted 896 players and 192 coaches. Haley, who played for the Dukes in the 1982 to 1985 seasons, remains JMU's all-time leading tackler. ★ On April 29, College of Business alumnus **Jeffrey A. Harper** represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose at the inauguration celebration of Transylvania University's 25th president R. Owen Williams. Harper says, "Dr. Williams gave an outstand-

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS: Dean Leipsner ('87)

Dear Dean Leipsner ('87):

My name is Katie, and I am one of the first recipients of the Charles Turner Scholarship. I want to thank you for creating and funding this scholarship. I understand that this scholarship is named for Charles Turner, a SMAD emeritus professor. It's a great honor to receive this, and I appreciate everything that the JMU School of Media Arts and Design does for students. I feel privileged to be part of this unique program that provides for students. Because of this scholarship I have the opportunity to take classes during summer session to further broaden my knowledge of design in the media. I am taking two exciting graphic design classes. Thank you again for establishing this scholarship, and thank you for choosing me as a recipient.

Katie George ('12)
LOVETTSVILLE, VA.

ing talk titled, 'Question Everything, Accomplish Anything' as it relates to the faculty, staff, students and members of the Lexington, Ky., community. This was a wonderful experience, and I was proud to represent JMU." * **Lisa Ondrejcek** and her husband, Darryl Pahl, live in Seattle, Wash., and own DF/Net Research Inc. They focus on data management for international health research, primarily HIV/AIDS research. Learn more at www.dfnetresearch.com.

88 The Lawrence Olds Quartet released their debut CD *A Second Chance*, which features jazz standards with updated arrangements and old-school blues. Olds is a featured vocalist with the Central Virginia Jazz Orchestra. He and his wife, Melissa, live in Richmond, Va. Check out his music at www.LawrenceOlds.com.

89 Karl Kronlage of Prince William County, Va., published *Saint Peter Killed God* through Slushpile reader's press. Kronlage has taught English in Prince William County for 15 years. * **Parker Perkins** says he had the best trip of his life, thanks to his wife. He writes, "She gave me a guided mountain-bike trip for Christ-



Parker Perkins ('89) climbs the South Rim Gooseberry Mesa Trail in Hurricane, Utah.

mas. I trained for three months, rode a 1,000 miles, and lost 35 pounds to prepare. I flew out to Hurricane, Utah, in early April and went mountain biking for a week in the Gooseberry Mesa area. I enjoyed the dramatic views. There was still snow on the mountaintops, and I covered more than 125 miles in four days of biking over big rocks and hard climbs. I wish I had known about mountain biking back in the '80s when I was at JMU. There are some great trails in and around Harrisonburg."

92 Daniel Robinson was promoted to professor of English at Widener University in Chester, Pa. He has published two books on Romantic-period poets: *William Wordsworth's Poetry: A Reader's Guide* and *The Poetry of Mary Robinson: Forum and Fame*. He edited Mary Robinson's poetry

for Pickering and Chanto's complete scholarly edition *The Works of Mary Robinson*. He is currently working on a study of Wordsworth's sonnets.

93 Master's of Art alumna **Anna Fariello** published her new book *Cherokee Pottery*. Fariello is an associate research professor at Western Carolina University's Hunter Library and director of the craft revival project. Her book traces the designs and patterns of Cherokee pottery as they have developed over centuries and into contemporary times. The 160-page book includes both archival and new images of the region, pots and potters. Fariello also published *Cherokee Basketry* (2009). Both books are part of the "From the Hands of our Elders" series, and both were funded in part through the Cherokee Preservation Foundation. Fariello was awarded a \$24,998 grant from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership, which is funding an online component of mountain potteries and Cherokee potters as part of the craft revival project.

94 On April 15, **Clifford R. Stevens** represented JMU and President Linwood H. Rose at the inauguration

ceremony of Drexel University's president John Fry. Stevens, a College of Business alumnus, says, "President John Fry upped the ante for institutions of higher learning as he described the leading role Drexel will play in becoming a world-class university. It was my honor and pleasure to represent Dr. Rose and the JMU community."

95 Joy Clayton Dade was a part of the Winner's Circle in the Houston Region of the 2010 National Novel Writing Competition. She completed a 61K word drama, *All Saints*, in 25 days. * **Kevin McGrath** published his book *Confronting Al Qaeda: New Strategies to Combat Terrorism* through Naval Institute Press. McGrath is a senior analyst with a global intelligence and risk management firm in Washington, D.C. In his book he proposes current policy options to confront terrorism.

96 Eileen F. Arnaldo, a health sciences major from Virginia Beach, Va., will be inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame at the annual banquet during Homecoming Weekend (Sept. 30–Oct. 2). Arnaldo was a member of the field hockey team. * **Mike R. Cawley**, a finance major from

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Do you remember the **Quad tunnels**? May Queen? Call

downs for **'cutting campus'**? Trips to the

University Farm? **The Stratford Players**?

Sitting **on the hill** watching the Marching

Royal Dukes? Decorating **the Jemmy statue**?



Get your copy of *Madison Century*, which shows 100 years of the Madison Experience. Buy yours now at www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration.

EMERITINOTES and former faculty news

Professor Emerita of Physical Education Leotus “Lee” Morrison and Professor Emerita of Health Sciences Patricia “Pat” Bruce participated in the Morrison-Bruce Center’s annual Alumnae Health and Fitness Program and reunion, held in April in conjunction with the university’s celebration of **Bluestone Reunion Weekend**. Read more in Class Notes under the 1969 class year.

Barbara Beecham Zinsser (’70) caught up with Professor Emerita of Physical Education Lee Morrison during the Morrison-Bruce Center’s 2011 Alumnae Health and Fitness reunion. **Diane “Dee” Raynes** (’69) also attended.



Professor Emeritus of Education **Harold D. Lehman** (’42) will celebrate this 70th class reunion at **Bluestone Reunion Weekend** in April 2012. He is a “double-Duke”—both an alumnus and a JMU employee. He taught in the JMU College of Education for many years and may be the oldest living male JMU graduate. If you are a male Madison graduate with a class year previous to 1942, the *Madison* magazine staff wants to hear from you! Email madisonmag@jmu.edu and tell us your story.

The JMU Office of Alumni Relations invites all graduates from the 1930s to the 1960s to come back to campus in April 2012 for **Bluestone Reunion Weekend**. Start planning now at www.jmu.edu/alumni/events/reunions.shtml. Are you a professor emeritus/emera who would like to share with alumni during Bluestone Reunions? Contact Tracey Kite at kitel@jmu.edu.



Professor Emeritus of Biology Robert A. Graves (’60, ’63M) of Harrisonburg, Va., died on April 5, 2011. He earned both an undergraduate and master’s degree in biology from Madison. He later joined the JMU faculty and taught human anatomy for 27 years. Graves founded Graves Electric Service Inc. with his son.



Professor Emeritus of Classics Robert Lisle of Staunton, Va., died on March 20, 2011. He was a member of Harvard University’s chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. A veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, Lisle served one term on the Staunton City Council. He taught at the University of Baltimore before joining the JMU faculty in 1969. Lisle taught Latin and Greek at JMU until 1994.



Professor Emeritus of History John E. Wood of Wilmington, N.C., died on May 8, 2011. He was a member of the JMU history faculty for 37 years. The Korean War veteran was a founding member of the Oak Grove Theater in Staunton, Va. He also served on the Virginia State Library Board and the Virginia State Democratic Central Committee.

*** Former professors are encouraged to contribute an “Emeriti Note” at madisonmag@jmu.edu.**

Verona, Pa., will be inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame at the annual banquet during Homecoming 2011. Cawley played four years on the JMU football team. He has played for NFL Europe, XFL and the NFL’s Tennessee Titans. *** Maj. David Mills**, U.S.M.C., says he proudly displays a Duke Dog on a mine roller in Afghanistan. Mine rollers precede convoys and detonate IEDs. Mills heads up a Marine Embedded Partnering Team of Combat Logistics Battalion-8 from Camp Lejeune, N.C. His team advises, trains and operates with Afghan National Army logistics units to support Marine Corps and Afghan infantry. This is Mills fourth combat deployment. Previously, he served as an adviser to the Afghan Army and to the Baghdad Police in Iraq. Mills has completed assignments in Washington, D.C., Kosovo, Hawaii, and with the U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa, Fla. He and his wife, Christine, have a one year-old son.

97 Jesse Ingram Haley was appointed senior vice president and chief financial officer at Alabama Hospital Association in Montgomery, Al. Haley was most recently employed by the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association in Richmond, Va. as director of financial policy. *** Timothy Heydon** (’97M) is president and CEO of Shenandoah Growers, an organic culinary herb company that creates its own organic fertilizer in an eco-friendly system for which it has an exclusive U.S. license. The company employs 150 people on the 54-acre property. Committed to freshness and regional food, Shenandoah Growers only ships within a day’s drive. Download fresh herb recipes at www.shenandoahgrowers.com/.

98 Aimee Vaughn Sharpe, an accounting major from Cockeysville, Md., will be inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame at the annual banquet during Homecoming

Weekend (Sept 30–Oct. 2). Sharpe was a member of the women’s soccer team. *** Ebony Sparkes** and her husband, **Jamel Sparkes** (’00), own Sparkling Events and Designs, LLC. Ebony, a College of Business alumna, is managing director and founder, and Jamel, a health sciences major, is director of operations. The full-service event planning and stationery design boutique specializes in unique weddings and events. The company, created in 2009, won *Wedding Wire* magazine’s 2011 Bride’s Choice Award. A member of the Association of Bridal Consultants, Sparkling Events and Design is a contributor and “events guru” for the metropolitan Washington, D.C. publication, *I Am Modern*. Ebony Sparkes worked in the IT industry for more than 12 years with a focus on project and quality management before founding her own company. She is also a bridal consultant and membership director for the Virginia Branch of the Association of Bridal Consultants. Learn more at www.mysparklingevent.com/.

99 PAETEC Holding Corp., a Fortune 1000 company, named **Clint Heiden** senior vice president and president of national accounts and fiber services. In his new role, he will lead PAETEC’s sales, operations and strategy for its 37,000-mile fiber network as well as strategy for nationwide accounts. Heiden has nearly 20 years of telecommunications experience. The computer information systems major won the 1999 JMU Distinguished Alumni Award. He lives in McLean, Va., with his wife and four children.

00 J. L. Avery and his wife, **Danielle** (’05), opened CrossFit gym in Springfield, Va. Check them out at www.cfsweat.com. *** Megan Riley Clark**, a kinesiology major from Goodlettsville, Tenn., will be inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame at the Homecoming 2011 banquet. Clark was a member of the

lacrosse team. *** Curtis Keaton**, a kinesiology major from Metairie, La., will be inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a running back on the JMU football team and was drafted by the NFL's Cincinnati Bengals in 2000. He played two seasons for the Bengals and the 2002 season for the New Orleans Saints. *** Akshan**, aka Nickia Palmer, released his new EP *Island Rocker* this summer. He is the lead singer for the Dub City

Renegades and his 2010 single release, *Jealous Type*, garnered more than 10,000 downloads in its first week. Jamaican born Akshan's music blends vintage reggae with a pop-rock sound. Follow him on Facebook and at Akshanmusic.com. *** Katrina Hunter Bigelow** was promoted to regional consultant for Ambit Energy. She and her husband, **Doug** ('99), live in Emmitsburg, Md., with their sons, Hunter and Parker. *** Agatha Kulesza**

published her first book, *Sweaty Armpit Duct Tape Girl: A Memoir*. She shares a courageously honest story of what it takes to be happy, according to Amazon.com. After graduation Kulesza worked for a Big 4 public accounting firm before branching out and creating her own accounting and bookkeeping service company. She also has created an online course for personal finance, adding an Internet component to her business.

01 Jason Long will be posthumously inducted into the JMU Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend. Long was a member of the track/cross country team. *** R. Lee McVey II** was named to the Top 40 under 40 in *The Business Journal of Tri-Cities Tennessee/Virginia*. The McVey Law Firm serves both Tennessee and Virginia. McVey also serves as director of baseball operations

Continued on Page 61

Turning vision into action

Virginia Chamber of Commerce president helps bring jobs to the commonwealth

By AMELIA WOOD ('13)

In numerous jobs developing Virginia's economy, **Barry E. DuVal ('81)** has effectively turned vision into action, helping bring tens of thousands of jobs to the commonwealth.

It's a way of leading he saw demonstrated by JMU President Emeritus Ronald E. Carrier. "Dr. Carrier had a vision. He knew where he was going and could take other people with him. I have tried to emulate his leadership style in the positions I've held," DuVal says.

With that vision, DuVal brought other aspects of his Madison Experience into his jobs, which most currently is president and CEO of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. At JMU, he was president of the JMU Honor Council, a member of Intervarsity and a Student Government Association senator. The governor of Virginia also appointed him to the JMU Board of Visitors this year.

DuVal says he majored in psychology because he believed understanding people would be a key part of his career. DuVal minored in paralegal studies.

Eileen Nelson, professor emerita of psychology, and her late husband, **William Nelson**, professor emeritus of political science and law, both inspired DuVal to pursue those areas of study.

Within two years of graduating, DuVal co-founded and served as the president and principal broker of DuVal Associates Inc. Realtors. In 1988, Newport News voters elected DuVal to city council, and by 1990 he was mayor.

The youngest mayor elected in the history of Newport News, DuVal garnered the most votes ever recorded in the city's history when he was re-elected in 1992.

As mayor, he focused on economic development. When a Newport News shipyard executive told DuVal the company was cutting its workforce from 30,000 to 18,000, DuVal began luring other companies to the city.

National chains were moving their anchor stores to busier roads, so DuVal filled in old shopping center sites with call centers for UPS and MCI, among others. DuVal also brought industrial firms from

Japan and Europe to Newport News. His actions more than compensated for the jobs the shipyard eliminated.

After six years in office, DuVal ended his work on the council. "We had three young children, and I was balancing my professional life with my personal life and my political life. I had to make a choice," he says.

Still, he stayed involved in public life, serving as president and CEO of Hampton Roads Partnership, and later as Secretary of Commerce and Trade under Virginia's then-Gov. Jim Gilmore from 1998 to 2002. During his time under Gilmore, DuVal helped bring more than 100,000 jobs to the commonwealth with 1,000 economic development projects.

From 2002 until June 30, 2010, DuVal was president and CEO of Kaufman & Canoles Consulting LLC. On July 1, 2010, DuVal became president and CEO of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

"The Virginia Chamber of Commerce provides leadership for the business community in Virginia," DuVal says. Working with the governor and the general assembly, DuVal helps craft business policy for Virginia.

DuVal's JMU ties permeate his family. DuVal married **Cindy Wermers DuVal ('81)**, and they have three children: **Catherine ('13)** is a junior at JMU. Daughter **Rachel DuVal Nilson** is a 2006 JMU alumna. Son Daniel is a 2009 University of Virginia graduate and is married to **Rebecca Webb DuVal**, a 2009 JMU alumna.

Barry and Cindy visit campus often to participate in JMU events, like the grand opening gala for the Forbes Center. He also presented a James Madison Lecture for JMU's former Founders Day Convocation. The DuVals are longtime donors to JMU and most recently helped fund DuVal Lecture Hall in the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. "It's beautiful!" Barry exclaims. "We are very proud of this facility." ❧

*** Visit Barry DuVal's Virginia Chamber of Commerce president's web page at www.vachamber.com/general.asp?id=277.**



JMU Board of Visitors member Barry E. DuVal ('81) and wife, Cindy Wermers DuVal ('81), celebrate at the grand opening of the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts in February. The longtime JMU supporters funded the center's DuVal Lecture Hall.

Thriving on the balancing act

Jillian Macey ('04) turns a hobby into two thriving businesses

BY HALI CHIET ('07)

What started as a hobby has become a dream job for **Jillian Macey ('04)**, founder and owner of two businesses – Très Chic Designs and Weddings & Wellies.

Established in 2005, Très Chic Designs specializes in personalized stationery, while Macey's new venture, Weddings & Wellies, is an all-encompassing wedding design studio offering everything from letterpress save-the-dates and invitations to programs, place cards and late-night goodie bags.

"I absolutely love what I do because I get to work one-on-one with clients and really establish a connection with each of them," says Macey, a communications studies, and media arts and design double major. She started her first business while she was in graduate school – creating monogrammed stationery, party and wedding invitations for friends and classmates. "My friends loved my work and encouraged me to start my own business," she says. "Marketing was by word of mouth at first, and then I decided to create a website."

The company name, Très Chic Designs, came from Macey's friend **Lizzie Jenkins ('04)**, who referred to stylish things as being "très chic."

Macey earned a graduate degree in college student affairs administration from the University of Georgia, intending to work in a leadership development role. But her business took off, and she quickly realized her passion and enjoyment in being creative. "I absolutely fell in love with designing stationery, so I moved to New York to pursue it."

When she arrived in New York in 2006, Macey exhibited in the National Stationery Show. "I soon realized that New York was an expensive place to live, and I wasn't quite ready to work from home," she recalls. She continued expanding her business but also took a job at Kate Spade New York, quickly moving her way up from Spade's personal assistant to the merchandising manager for handbags and apparel. Macey worked with the design, product development and sales teams to meet customers' needs,

set retail prices and finalize product designs.

"I loved being able to combine both the business and creative sides," says Macey, who was always interested in fashion but never considered a career in the field.

During her four years with Kate Spade, Macey kept designing wedding invitations on the side. She designed for several JMU alumnae friends. Macey says her Madison Experience helped prepare her for the challenging, yet exciting balancing act.

At JMU, Macey took on various leadership roles as a Student Ambassador, student director for Greek Week and as an Orientation program assistant. She also chaired student committees for Homecoming and Commons Day. The Sigma Kappa and Lambda Pi Eta member says, "My JMU experience – what I learned in my classes and my involvement in all of these activities – helped me learn how to successfully balance everything."

After four years in New York and success with her first business, Macey decided she was ready to focus all of her attention on weddings and start the next stage of her life with her fiancé. "We were both ready to leave New York and start a life together in a place that better matched our lifestyle," she says.

Macey lives in Norwich, Vt., and enjoys the luxury of working from her cozy country home. But she hasn't given up the balancing act. In addition to managing Weddings and Wellies, she also teaches online classes in the School of Fashion for the Academy of Art University in San Francisco.

She is also involved with the partner board and Women in Business Board at Tuck School of Business, where her fiancé is completing his M.B.A. Macey enjoys free time running with their golden retriever puppy on local trails.

"I absolutely love running my own business and doing something creative every day," Macey adds. "I constantly challenge myself to design new and exciting things, and I look forward to the future of pleasing clients with Weddings & Wellies." ❧

*** Learn more about Jillian Macey ('04) at www.weddingsandwellies.com and www.treschicdesigns.com.**



Wondering why she's wearing those yellow boots? "They're called wellies, and they're cheery like weddings," says Jillian Macey ('04). "That's how I came up with the name Weddings and Wellies."

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS SMAD

Dear members of the Christiansen Family:

I want to thank you for choosing me to receive the Minnie Christiansen – Margaret Miner Endowed Scholarship. I understand that the late Drs. Ted and Marjorie Christiansen created this scholarship to honor their mothers. Thank you for continuing this gift. College can be difficult, but it is a blessing to know that there are people like you who are willing to reward students' hard work and help them achieve their dreams. Your generosity has brought me one step closer to reaching my ultimate goal of becoming a registered dietitian. You will never know how grateful I am. Thank you so very much.

Ashley Luebbers ('11)
CHESTER, VA.

and general counsel with Total Sports Management. He and his wife, Mary, have three children. The McVeys enjoy spending time together by attending JMU home football games.

02 Brett Miller was promoted to associate principal at the law firm of Kitch, Drutchess, Wagner, Valatutti & Sherbrook. He and his wife, Candice, welcomed their daughter, Hadley Bryn, born on Dec. 10, 2010.

04 Mike Jenkins ('05M), winner of the 2010 Arnold Amateur World Championship, competed in the 2011 pro show this past spring and took second place behind Brian Shaw. Jenkins edged out reigning World's Strongest Man Zydrunas Savickas, who has won the Arnold Championship six times and is known as the "best strongman of all time." Jenkins says he was pleased to "shock a ton of people in the strength world

this year" with his performance at the World Championships. He set three world records, two of which were later broken by the narrowest of margins by the overall winners in the categories. Jenkins currently is the world-record holder in one-handed giant dumbbell press, (242 for eight reps in 90 seconds). After an eventful spring competitions season, Jenkins also got engaged.

* **Jillian Macey** is founder and owner of Très Chic Designs and Weddings & Wellies. The first business specializes in personalized stationery, and the second specializes in wedding events. Macey is a communication studies and media arts and design double major. Read more about her on Page 60. * **Patrick O'Herron** is completing a Master's in Arts Management at the University at Buffalo while working administratively for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, one of the most internationally acclaimed orchestras in the nation. O'Herron recently won the prominent role of "Eddie Ryan" in the BPO performance of *Funny Girl*. He also starred alongside Broadway actress Michele Ragusa of *Young Frankenstein* fame, and the show received rave reviews. O'Herron says it was an "immense honor" to be featured. * **Capt. Jordon R. Roth** of Stafford, Va., won two Bronze Stars for exceptional meritorious service in Afghani-

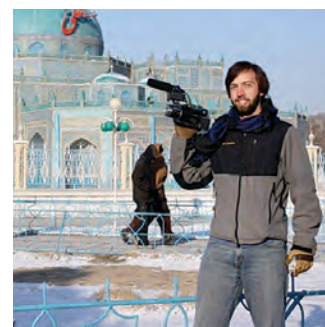
stan. Roth serves with the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment Taskforce Knighthawk. He is a medevac pilot-in-command and enabled the evacuation of critically injured soldiers during hazardous flight conditions. He was honored with both service medals in February 2010. Roth is a political science major and military leadership minor.

06 Neil R. Christiansen of Del Mar, Calif., is founder and president of Give and Surf, a nonprofit volunteer organization in Bocas del Toro, Panama. He works with indigenous communities on this island archipelago on a number of initiatives including building a playground, educational programs, water catchment installations and more. "After four years of selling medical devices, I decided to move to Panama and reconnect with my two loves — giving to a deserving community and surfing," says Christiansen. "JMU students and alumni are welcome to come volunteer." Learn more at www.giveandsurf.org.

07 Natasha Khanna spent almost four years working in the corporate world as a crisis management consultant in New York City before she moved to rural India to become a volunteer teacher and director of communications for Shanti Bhavan. The residential home pro-

vides schools for some of India's most socially and economically disadvantaged children. Learn more about the Shanti Bhavan Children's Project at www.shantibhavanonline.org.

09 The nonprofit Community Films Foundation is honoring the late **Brian Carderelli** of Harrisonburg with The Brian Carderelli Project.



Brian Carderelli ('09)

The foundation helps filmmakers work with their communities in the production of their films, serving as a vehicle for developing community. The Brian Carderelli Project connects filmmakers with mission and humanitarian groups to help share their stories with a broader audience. Carderelli graduated with a degree in digital video from the School of Media Arts and Design. He was killed in Afghanistan in 2010 while volunteering to produce promotional materials for an international school and other humanitarian organizations. To see Carderelli's photos and learn more about the Community Films Foundation project log onto www.communityfilms-foundation.org/ and click on The Brian Carderelli Project link. * Former *Madison* magazine intern **Jacquelyn Walsh** won third place in the 2011 Virginia Press Association annual awards for feature story writing. Her article, "The robonaut space race: Valley native part of NASA-GM team developing the most advanced robot in the world," appeared in the *Daily News-Record's Rocktown Weekly* publication. Walsh was also named co-president of the Harrisonburg/Rockingham JMU Alumni Chapter.



Mike Jenkins ('04) took second place in the 2011 Arnold Championships, the "World's Strongest Man" annual competition. Read more about Jenkins at www.myvirtualpaper.com/doc/JMU/spring-summer2010madison/2010041401/#22.

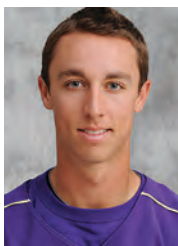


Showing off their JACards and the Alaskan mountains are (l-r) Andrea Mellonakos ('10), Nicole Ferraro ('10), J.C. Cartwright ('08) and Lauren Walddt ('10).

10 Nicole Ferraro, a health sciences major currently living in Juneau, Alaska, hosted three fellow Dukes visitors in May. The alumni trio met up with Juneau resident J.C. Cartwright ('08). During the visit they realized that they all had their JACards easily accessible — even a year after graduation. Of course the group immediately thought, “photo op.” Go Dukes!

11 Andrew T. Pham, a piano performance/music composition major from Fairfax, Va., won a 2011 Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship and \$5,000 award. Each year,

the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi awards 57 fellowships of \$5,000 to top scholars across the United States. During his studies at JMU, Pham racked up the academic laurels. He twice won the first prize in JMU's Write On! Academic Writing Contest. Faculty members in the JMU School of Music also chose Pham for the prestigious Presser Scholarship, an award given to the outstanding junior



David Herbek ('11)

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in the School of Music. Pham spent this summer studying in Germany in a JMU May-term course and is currently pursuing a Master's of Music Degree in piano performance at Indiana University. Read more at www.jmu.edu/bethechange/stories/andrewPham.shtml. * The Chicago White Sox drafted JMU shortstop David Herbek of Haymarket, Va., in the 15th round of the Major League Baseball draft in June. Herbek led the Dukes in hitting with a .362 average in 2011. He also hit 15 home runs, and his 76 RBI is the second-best single-season total in school history. Herbek was also named a 2011 Louisville Slugger/Collegiate Baseball Second Team All-American.

12 The Cleveland Indians selected Jake Lowery of Midlothian, Va., in the fourth round of the 2011 Major League Baseball draft in June. Lowery, a junior catcher, was the 128th pick and also won the 2011 Johnny Bench Award

as the nation's best collegiate catcher. The 2011 CAA Player of the Year, Lowery hit .359, with a school record 91 RBI and matched the JMU and CAA single-season records with 24 home runs. He also broke JMU records for extra-base hits and total bases, and matched the single-season record for triples with eight.



Top catcher Jake Lowery ('12)

SCHOLARSHIP THANKS: JMU Parents Council

Dear members of the JMU Parents Council:

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the 2010–11 Parents Council Scholarship. I am honored to receive this generous gift, and it is greatly appreciated. I hope to continue my education and complete my bachelor's degree at JMU in both history and political science. Beyond academics, I am also involved in leadership organizations like the Student Government Association. I want to pursue a career in either law or politics, or some form of public service. My ultimate life goal is to encourage and create a positive change in our nation and world. My JMU education will provide me with excellent opportunities for future endeavors. With the help of your generous scholarship, I am one step closer to my goals. You have invested in the future. It is my sincere hope that I may continue to reflect the academic prowess and inspiring spirit of James Madison University.

Jacob Glessner ('13)
BETHLEHEM, PA.

got jmu love?

As every Facebook user knows, sometimes “Like” is not enough.

Learn more on Sept. 6, 2011,
at facebook.com/JMUAlumni
and Twitter.com/JMUAlumni

Stay tuned to JMU Alumni's Facebook and Twitter pages to see how you can show your JMU LOVE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weddings

1990s Hillary Katherine Zahm ('98) to Joseph Vesel, 12/31/10

2000s Stephen H. Ravas ('00) to Lesley K. Townsend, 9/4/10 * Jennifer McNamara ('01, '05Ph.D.) to Greg Poston, 11/13/10 * Connie Maxwell

('03) to Robert Cox, 1/1/11 * Ashley Kulynych ('06) to Travis Mansell ('05), 6/18/11 * Colleen Schorn ('06) to Evan Bolick ('05), 4/3/11 *

Amanda Neese ('07) to Daniel Drumheller ('00), 9/25/10 * Jamie Richards ('07) to Dustin Didawick ('06, '07M), 8/6/11

FutureDukes

1980s Kimberly Falck Webb ('87) and Michael, a daughter, Elise Marie, 11/19/09

1990s Ed Kalletta ('92) and Kim, twins, Bradley Edward James and Kaitlynn Fox, 1/7/11 * AJ Fischer ('92) and Beth, a daughter, Allison Julianna, 3/14/11 * Emily Teeple Morrison ('96) and Josh, a son, Charles Benjamin, 8/16/10 * Jennifer Lanuti Plurad ('97) and Jason, a son, Timothy James, 9/12/10 * Drew A. Sleicher ('97) and Kristen, a daughter, Karissa James, 5/2/11. She joins sister, Kiera Madison Sleicher, 2. [Note the two middle names, *James and Madison*: "Where we met and went to school," says Drew.] * Heather Wood Brown ('98) and Blair ('99), a daughter, Caroline Lily, 8/30/10 * Kelly Jensen McAleer ('98) and Justin, a daughter, Evie Jensen, 2/10/11 * Allison Coleman Kirsch ('99) and Robert, a son, Maxton Allan, 1/7/11 * Megan Smith and Justin ('99), a daughter, Finley Kate, 11/22/10 * Erica Crane Wright ('99) and John, a daughter, Avery Neal, 11/4/10

2000s Melissa Garrett ('00) and Glen Wilson, a son, Evan, 4/6/11 * Nicole Pawlowski Schlemmer ('00) and Brian ('00), a daughter, Anna

Rose, 10/25/10 * Melinda Butner Heflin ('01) and Scott ('01), a son, Cole Jacob, 3/5/11 * Lauren DiSano Bradley ('02) and Christopher ('02), a daughter, Anabel Grace, 3/26/11 * Alise Maloney Kowalski ('02) and Ben, sons, Oliver Roe, 3/7/11, and Sam, 5/5/09 * Brett Miller ('02) and Candice, a daughter, Hadley Bryn, 12/17/10 * Karyn McNamara Bersch ('03) and Kyle ('02), a daughter, Kiersten Covey, 2/14/11 * Megan Luttner Brunner ('03) and Benjamin ('03), a daughter, Claire Ashley, 1/16/11 * Marie Cunningham Nelson ('03) and Bobby ('03), a daughter, Juliet Elizabeth, 3/16/11 * Laura Spachtholz Sims ('03) and Neil ('03), a son, Colin Matthew, 3/17/11 * Sarah Henderson Riner ('05, '07M) and Carter ('04), a daughter, Brently Nicole, 3/25/11 * Erin McDonald Sprouse ('05) and Scott ('04), a son, Nicholas Carrington, 4/13/11 * Holly Goodman Bennett ('06, '07M) and Andy ('07), a son James Crosby, 1/1/11 * Lyndsey Scott Fatz ('06) and Jason ('06), a daughter, Tessa Lynn, 3/3/11 * Joanne Rupprecht Walter ('06) and Kevin, a son, Liam Patrick, 3/22/11 * Cassandra Hanifin and Brian ('07) a son, Bobby Michael, 4/8/08, a son Bryson Joseph, 5/2/09, a daughter Cassidy Nicole, 4/28/11

In Memoriam

JOSEPHINE "JO SUE" PATE MATTHEWS of Parksley, Va., 11/15/10
MARGARET MOORE KEATLEY ('32) of Virginia Beach, Va., 11/8/10
KATHERINE MILLER BLEVINS ('33, '63M) of Luray, Va., 3/19/11
HELEN H. SHELTON ('38) of Newport News, Va., 3/19/11
SARAH BLANCHARD R. FOOTE ('39) of Farmville, Va., 1/27/11
RUTH STICKLEY LONG ('39) of Bridgewater, Va., 4/22/11
MARJORIE HART KIDD ('42) of Stony Creek, Va., 3/4/11
LELIA JANE ARMSTRONG MILLER ('42) of Bridgewater, Va., 10/6/10
MARY GREGORY ROSEBERRY ('42) of Manassas, Va., 3/9/11
VIRGINIA FERGUSON GOODWIN ('43) of Little Rock, Ark., 6/25/10
GLADYS KAUFMAN PERL ('43) of Rye, N.Y., 7/12/09
ANNA P. COHN ('45) of Norfolk, Va., 9/10/10
DOROTHY BRIDGMAN HAWKINS DESHAZO ('45) of Fairfax, Va., 3/14/10
DORIS TIGNOR BRYANT ('46) of Raleigh, N.C., 7/15/07
ELIZABETH SIBERT RUSSELL ('47) of Winter Park, Fla., 3/3/11
SARAH STRADER HOWARD ('50) of Harrisonburg, 5/19/11
BETTE WISE BOSSERMAN HUGHES ('50) of Harrisonburg, 4/11/11
MARIANA "MARY" SUMNER ('50) of Chesapeake, Va., 6/16/09
JACQUELINE PEATROSS COOK ('51) of Cookeville, Tenn., 3/1/96
BEVERLY BROOKS DAWSON ('52) of Glen Allen, Va., 10/18/10
PATRICIA DAVIS EMMONS ('55) of Rogersville, Ala., 1/5/11
SHIRLEY HANSBERGER MILLER ('57) of Broadway, Va., 4/12/11
BETTY JEAN HOWELL ('58) of Salem, Va., 10/3/10
BRENDA LEE GLENN ('61) of Auburndale, Fla., 10/20/08
MARY PARTEE FUNKHOUSER ('69) of Harrisonburg, 4/26/11
MARCIA LEA COLE ('71) of Richmond, Va., 4/5/11
LAURIE C. McDONALD ('72) of Leesburg, Va., 4/3/11
KEVIN C. WAINDEL ('75) of Nathalie, Va., 5/21/11
W. PHILLIP PATTON ('77) of Chesterfield, Va., 3/26/11
MAUREEN BETZHOLD UNDERWOOD ('77) of Little River, S.C., 2/15/11
LYDIA JOHNSON DECRISTOFORO ('86) of Derby, Kan., 2/22/11
PERRY H. MOSS ('92, '93M) of Powhatan, Va., 5/7/10
WILLIAM S. STETSON III ('01) of Helena, Ala., 3/11/11
TIMOTHY RION WADE II ('05) of Atlanta, Ga., 3/27/11
ROSS TAYLOR CHURCH ('07) of Fairfax, Va., 5/30/11
DAVID THOMAS MCINTURFF ('10) of Williamsburg, Va., 5/2/11

On behalf of JMU, the *Madison* magazine team apologizes for an error in listing several alumni in the In Memoriam section in the Spring/Summer 2011 issue. We are relieved and happy to find out these alumni are alive and well! Thanks for staying in touch! We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.



Sun, service and smiles in the Big Easy

By MICHELLE HITE ('88)

JMU students shared sun, service and smiles during Alternative May Break in New Orleans, where they helped Habitat for Humanity. Alternative May Break site leader Frank Ameka says, "This year was very exciting. There was a lot of enthusiasm, and we had 300 on a waiting list for the trip! I was assisted by two wonderful co-leaders, Sarah Al-Haj and Glenda Cosby. They are the true heroes of this trip because of their dedication, planning and insight." Ameka is assistant director of technology and design for University Unions, which includes Warren Hall, Taylor Hall, Grafton-Stovall Theater and the Festival.

The JMU Office of Community Service-Learning sponsored the Fifth-Annual May Hurricane Relief Trip May 7-14. Hundreds of students sign up via a lottery system to earn a seat on the May service trip. While the annual trip's focus remains on re-building houses and communities destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, each May trip addresses immediate needs. JMU students and site leaders work with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Louisiana Children's Museum, the Green Project and NOLA Pet Rescue.

* Learn more at www.jmu.edu/csl/abp/index.html.

Purple power: Jim O'Donnell, Christopher Eddowes, Kimberly McEntee and Renna Wirchin show off their muscles in New Orleans, where they created new Madison memories by giving back. (Above): Fifty-six students participated in this Alternative May Break helping Habitat for Humanity in the Big Easy.

Submit your **Madison** class note

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

Class Notes, *Madison*, James Madison University, 725 South Mason Street, MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Full Name (include maiden) _____

Class Year _____ College/Major _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail Address _____ Home Phone _____

Employer _____ Job Title _____

Spouse Name (include maiden) _____ JMU Class Year _____

News _____

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

70078

www.jmu.edu/alumni/classnote/



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E-Hall
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Madison Fund Office
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Details: (888) JMU-ALUM



Capture the spirit of JMU in a photo and celebrate Homecoming and the JMU Alumni Association 100th anniversary.
Submit your photo that captures the Madison Experience: the beauty, the people and the spirit of JMU. Email photos to publicaffairs@jmu.edu Aug. 1–31. Then get ready to "Like" the photos in a special Facebook album Sept. 1–22. Follow the online rules and you could win prizes, a spot in the professional *Full Frame 100: Celebrating Madison Alumni Photographers* exhibit at Homecoming and be published in *Madison*!

MADISON HOMECOMING 2011

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